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ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1119 M. E.

1943—1944 A. D.

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CHAPTER I.

GENERAL.

M. E. 1119 (17th August 1943—15th August 1944).

Situation and Area.

Travancore (Malayalam—*Tiruvitamkur*) is the southernmost Indian State and occupies the south-west portion of the Indian peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle, with its apex at Cape Comorin, between 8° 4' and 10° 22' North Latitude and between 76° 13' and 77° 38' East Longitude. Travancore is bounded on the north by the State of Cochin and the British District of Coimbatore. The British Districts of Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevelly constitute its eastern boundary and on the west and south lie the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. Travancore has an area of 7661·75 square miles, its extreme length from north to south being 174 miles and its extreme width, 75 miles.

Physical Features.

The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain of varying altitude from north to south, isolating Travancore from the Madras Presidency on the east and conferring a distinctiveness on its history and culture. From the mountain heights walling in the State on the eastern boundary the country undulates to the west over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the Arabian Sea. Extensive tea and cardamom plantations have sprung up on most of the higher elevations; pepper, rubber, ginger and turmeric flourish in the lesser uplands; and in both regions, there are reserved forests of valuable timber, both of virgin growth and of scientific planting. There are stretches of paddy cultivation terraced along the valleys, and paddy cultivation is also extensively carried on in the irrigated areas towards the south in Nanjinad and Edanad and in the fens and backwater reclamations

in the north. The broad coast-belt and the shores of the backwaters are covered with dense cocoanut plantations, while all over the plains are grown in addition, around homesteads, a variety of trees such as the areca, the jack, the mango, the tamarind and the cashewnut. Tapioca is cultivated almost everywhere in the lower levels and the raising of yams, beans and gram is considerable. The State reserved forests cover an extent of slightly less than a third of the entire area and are well timbered with teak, black wood, ebony, jack, *anjili*, etc. The elephant, the leopard, the tiger, the bison, the bear, the sambur and a variety of small game are plentiful in the forests. Among the characteristic features of the country are the broad lagoons or backwaters forming a cheap highway for traffic from the extreme north to as far south as Trivandrum, connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral and numerous streams and rivers flowing westward to the sea. Extremes of temperature are unknown in the low country, the prevailing characteristic of which is a warm humidity. But the country cools as it climbs to the bracing heights of Peermade, the Cardamom Hills, the High Ranges and the Ponmudi Hills. Travancore receives a share of both the south-west and the north-east monsoons, the former in a larger measure than the latter. The south-west monsoon begins about the middle of Edavam (May-June) and the north-east monsoon commences in the month of Thulam (October-November). The rainfall is generally heavy, averaging about 89 inches *per annum*. Rice, fish and tapioca form the staple food of the people.

Population.

The population of the State, according to the decennial census of 1941 is 6,070,018 (3,045,102 males and 3,024,916 females), the increase in population for the decennial period (1931-41) being 974,045 or 19·1 per cent. The average density of population in 1931 was 665 per sq. mile and it rose to 792 per sq. mile in 1941; if calculated on the area of land available for cultivation, the density of population rises to 1,463 per sq. mile.

Distribution.

Trivandrum, the Capital City, has a population of 128,365. The principal towns are Alleppey, Nagercoil, Quilon, Kottayam, Changanacherry, Tiruvalla, Attingal and

Parur. Villages and village life as prevalent on the East Coast are practically unknown except in parts of South Travancore. Elsewhere, the conditions are rural or semi-rural and the people live in detached homesteads, each nestling in its own tree-planted and walled-in garden. Hinduism, the religion of the Ruling Family, is the predominant religion and its followers, divided into various caste groups constitute nearly three-fifths (3,671,497) of the entire population while the denominations of Christians, including the Syrian Christians, represent nearly one-third (1,963,790), and the Mahomedans nearly one-fourteenth (434,150). There has long existed in the State a small body of European and American residents. The number of literates per 100 of the population is 47·1. The percentage of literacy for males is 58·1 and for females 36·0. Except among a small section of the population, the *Purdah* system is unknown in Travancore. Women generally enjoy great freedom in the State, and this fact coupled with their general education has brought about their active participation in affairs.

Religion.

Literacy.

Position of Women.

From the point of view of progressive administration and of literacy, Travancore yields to no State or Province in India and in point of population and revenue is next only to Hyderabad and Mysore. Hyderabad which is nearly eleven times as large as Travancore is only a little over two and a half times as populous. Mysore, Gwalior and the neighbouring colony of Ceylon are nearly four times as extensive, but their population is, respectively, about one and one-third and three-fourths of and the same as that of Travancore. Baroda, though nearly of the same area, has only less than one-half of the population of Travancore.

Travancore compared with other States.

The early history of Travancore is in great part shrouded in tradition; but there is little doubt that the Maharaja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty at one time in South

Historical Sketch.

India. The English first settled at Anjengo which they obtained in 1684 on a grant from the Queen of Attingal which was subsequently ratified by the king of Travancore. Marthanda Varma, the son of the Queen of Attingal, became in 1729 the *Adhipathi* of Venad. He succeeded in crushing the *Ettuveetil Pillamars*, the feudal chieftains of eight *desams*, who had striven against the power of the Rajas for over a century. Thereafter he grew in strength and power and, having amalgamated Attingal with Venad on a treaty engagement that none but the offspring of the Ranis of Attingal shall succeed to the rulership of Travancore, proceeded on a campaign of conquest with his minister Ramayyan *Dalawa* and the Venad *Valia Capitan*, Eustachius Benedictus De Lannoy, a Flemish soldier who had been captured in a fight with the Dutch and whom the Raja had befriended and raised to that high position. By the time of Marthanda Varma's death in 1758, practically the whole of modern Travancore had been brought under his sway. He established order, settled the country and dedicated it to Sri Padmanabhaswami, and he and his successors, Rajas or Ranis of Travancore, have since ruled as the *Dasas* or *Sevinis* of the Deity. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in the Carnatic and in Mysore in the eighteenth century, the Travancore State rendered military assistance to the Company. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was included in the treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view of the protection of the State from possible inroads by Tippu Sultan, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805 a new treaty was signed and an annual contribution of Rs. 7,96,430-8 as. was fixed mainly in lieu of the obligation assumed by the State towards the cost of maintaining a force by the Honourable Company for the defence of Travancore from foreign aggression and of the obligation under the Treaty of 1795 to provide an army for effective service in British India in times of war. The history of the State has been one of steady development and well ordered progress under a succession of able and enlightened rulers. His Highness

Sri Chitra Tirunal, the present Maharaja, has adhered to the traditions of his House, and has signalised his reign by a Proclamation throwing open the temple of Sri Padmanabhaswami and all the temples under his control and the temples under Government control to all Hindus including those who were commonly described as untouchable and backward classes—a reform which has evoked universal appreciation.

The Calendar

The official year in Travancore is reckoned according to the Malabar Era or the *Kollam* Era said to date from the rebuilding of *Kollam* or Quilon 1119 years ago. The year begins about the middle of August. The twelve months are named after the zodiacal signs, the longest month having 32 days and the shortest 29 days.

The Currency.

Travancore has its own coinage of the silver *fanam* (2·25 annas), the copper *chuckram* (6·74 pies) and the *cash* (0·42 pie). It has been issuing also its own silver coin formerly called half rupee but now called the "Chitra" (*14 chuckrams*) and a coin formerly called quarter-rupee (7 *chuckrams*). The British Indian silver and nickel coins and currency notes are also in free circulation. The "Chitra" coins and the British Indian half-rupee are legal tender for an unlimited amount.

The Anchal.

The State has its own postal service, known as the Anchal, and issues its own stamps. Its Anchal offices also transact savings bank business and issue *hundies* or money orders.

The Ruling Family.

His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Bala Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manney Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Maharaja of Travancore, was born on the 7th November 1912, and his succession to the *Musnad* was recognised by the British Government on the 1st September 1924. His Highness was invested with ruling powers on the 6th November 1931 (20th Thulam 1107). His Highness the Maharaja is entitled to a salute of

nineteen guns, and to twenty-one guns within the State. The *Marumakkathayam* law governs the succession to the *Musnad* which, further, is confined to the offspring of the Attingal Ranis. Her Highness the Senior Maharani (born on the 19th November 1895) and Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi (born on the 8th November 1896) were adopted into the Ruling family on the 31st August 1900. His Highness the Maharaja is the eldest son of Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi. A daughter, the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal), was born to Her Highness on the 17th September 1916 and a second son, the Elaya Raja, on the 22nd March 1922. A daughter, the Second Princess, (Uthram Tirunal) was born to Her Highness the Senior Maharani on the 30th December 1923 and a second daughter, the Third Princess, (Kartika Tirunal) was born to Her Highness on the 23rd October 1926. A son (Avittam Tirunal) was born to the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal) on the 5th January 1938. A daughter (Bharani Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 15th February 1940. A daughter (Bharani Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 29th December 1941. A daughter (Pooyam Tirunal) was born to the First Princess (Kartika Tirunal) on the 7th September 1942 and a daughter (Rohini Tirunal) was born to the Second Princess (Uthram Tirunal) on the 13th February 1943.

During the year under report His Majesty the King Emperor was pleased to promote His Highness the Maharaja to the Honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Regular Army.

Honours conferred by His Highness the Maharaja.

In connection with the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja in October 1943, His Highness was pleased to confer the following titles :—

The title of *Rajakaryapravina* was conferred on Mr. T. Raman Nambisan, Sarvadhikariakar, Palace.

The title of *Rajyasevapravina* was conferred on Mr. A. Lekshminarayana Aiyar who was then the Financial Secretary to Government (since deceased).

The title of *Rajyasevanirata* was conferred on Mr. S. Chattanatha Karayalar, Deputy President of the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Tours of His Highness the Maharaja.

His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi, the Elaya Raja, the First Princess, Prince Avittom Tirunal, Princess Pooyam Tirunal and Lieut. Col. Goda Varma Raja proceeded on tour to Madras in Dhanu 1119. The tour was private. The staff that accompanied the party consisted of *Rajakaryapravina* N. Krishnamurti, Private Secretary to His Highness, the Palace Medical Officer and four Aides-de-camp.

Their Highnesses left Trivandrum on the morning of the 1st January 1944 corresponding to the 17th Dhanu 1119 and reached Madras the next day. Their Highnesses detrained at Tambaram and proceeded by car to the Travancore House at Adyar where Their Highnesses stayed.

During Their Highnesses' stay at Madras, Their Highnesses fulfilled numerous engagements. On the evening of their arrival, Their Highnesses attended a Kathakali performance held under their patronage at the Adyar theatre, by Mrs. Rukmani Arundale.

Their Highnesses were the guests of Their Excellencies Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras and Lady Hope at a luncheon at the Government House, Guindy, the next day.

Noteworthy among the other engagements of Their Highnesses were the two visits paid to War Services personnel in Madras—one on the 13th January 1944 to the Travancore State Forces and the other on the 16th to another unit. On the 18th January 1944, Their Highnesses entertained at luncheon Their Excellencies the Governor of Madras and Lady Hope at the Travancore House. His Highness also paid a visit to the Travancore State Forces Unit stationed at Fort St. George, on the 19th January 1944.

On the evening of the 20th January, His Highness accompanied by Her Highness the Maharani and the Elaya Raja left Madras by the Bangalore Mail on a visit to the Mysore State in response

to the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. Mr. K. K. Kartha, Assistant Engineer, was appointed as Special Officer for the visit. The officers of the camp consisted of *Rajakaryapravina* N. Krishnamurti, Private Secretary, the Medical Officer, the Special Officer and three Aides-de-Camp. The Dewan, *Sachivottama* Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, joined the camp at Bangalore.

Their Highnesses and party reached Bangalore on the morning of the 21st where they changed into the Metre Gauge Special Train of the Mysore Railway for the journey to Mysore, which was reached at 1 p. m. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore received Their Highnesses at the railway station. A salute of nineteen guns was fired. After a brief introduction of officers and inspection of the Guard of Honour, Their Highnesses the Maharajas drove in procession part of the way to Lalitha Mahal Palace followed by Her Highness the Maharani and the Elaya Raja and the rest of the party in cars.

Their Highnesses spent the afternoon and the following morning in visiting the Sandalwood Oil and Silk Factories and other institutions in the Mysore City. Their Highnesses also worshipped at the Chamundeswari temple on the 22nd and proceeded to Krishnaraja Sagar in the evening to see the illumination of the fountains. They spent the night at Krishnaraja Sagar and returned to Mysore for lunch the next day after seeing the dam and the picture gallery at Seringapatam. Their Highnesses visited the Jaganmohan Palace Chitrasala in the afternoon and left Mysore City the same night on tour to places of interest in the mofussil. In the course of the itinerary, they visited the temples at Belur and Halebid ; the Iron Works, the Paper Mills and Cement Factory at Bhadravati ; the Jog Falls and the Power Scheme connected therewith ; and the Kolar Gold Fields. Their Highnesses returned to Madras on the 28th January 1944.

Their Highnesses spent a further busy week in Madras. The chief event of the week was the entertainment given at the Travancore House, Adyar, to the different fighting forces then stationed in the City. No distinction of rank or race was made and to all the guests equal courtesy and hospitality were extended.

Her Highness the Maharani laid the foundation stone of the Umayal Hostel attached to the Madras Seva Sadan. Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar entertained Their Highnesses at a Garden Party at the Chettinad House, Adyar.

Their Highnesses left Madras on the 2nd February 1944 and returned to the capital the next day.

Again, in Kumbhom 1119, His Highness proceeded on a tour to Bombay with Her Highness the Maharani and the Elaya Raja. The Private Secretary, the Palace Medical Officer and one Aide-de-Camp accompanied Their Highnesses. Leaving Trivandrum on the 11th March 1944 corresponding to the 28th Kumbhom 1119, Their Highnesses and party reached Bombay on the 14th March 1944, after halting for a few hours at Madras en route. On the news of the lamentable and unexpected demise of the First Prince (Avittom Tirunal) reaching Their Highnesses at midnight on the 22nd March, Their Highnesses left Bombay by plane at 1 p. m. on the 23rd and reached the capital at about 5 p. m. that evening.

Demise of the First Prince.

His Highness the Maharaja, his family and the country were plunged in grief by the unexpected and sad demise of the First Prince (Avittom Tirunal) on the 22nd March 1944 corresponding to the 9th Meenam 1119.

The British Representative.

In the year 1800 A. D., the first British Resident accredited to the Court of Travancore took up his residence in the State. British Residents continued until October 1923 when Travancore came into direct relations with the Government of India and the British Resident's title was altered to that of "Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States". From April 1937, the designation of the Agent was changed to the "Resident for the Madras States". H. J. Todd Esq., C. I. E., of the Indian Political Service who was Resident for the Madras States from the 16th March 1943 continued as such throughout the year 1119.

CHAPTER II.

WAR EFFORTS.

From the commencement of the war when His Highness the Maharaja placed the entire resources of the State at the disposal of the British Crown, the contributions that Travancore has made in men, money and materials have been on a scale truly worthy of her great traditions as a staunch ally of the British Power.

A Trawler and Minesweeper—H. M. I. S. Travancore—built at a cost of Rs. 6·5 lakhs was presented by His Highness the Maharaja to the Royal Indian Navy. Two Fighter Planes—Travancore I and II—costing nearly Rs. 1·5 lakh were presented by His Highness to the Royal Air Force. His Highness has also contributed a sum of Rs. 12,34,700 to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, Rs. 1,50,000 for Women's War Work, Rs. 1,10,000 to the Red Cross, Rs. 2 lakhs to the Viceroy's Comforts Fund and Rs. 25,000 for the King George's Fund for Sailors. The total of these and other contributions as it stood at the end of the year was Rs. 24,45,700.

Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi, mother of His Highness the Maharaja, has provided one Field Ambulance Unit. Her Highness has also made generous contributions to the Lady Linlithgow Trinket Fund.

The First and the Second Infantries of the Travancore State Forces continued to be on active service outside the State during the year under report. A Training Battalion has been organised to send reinforcements to the First and the Second Infantries.

The State Forces.

Besides the two infantry units, a Signal Platoon of the Third Infantry at war establishment basis has been deputed for service outside the State. The Travancore General Purposes Transport

Company was also raised to function as a unit of the Indian Army and the Company left the State on active service in May 1941. Facilities were given for the training of other G. P. T. Companies in Travancore.

War Supplies.

During the year under report, Travancore continued to supply many important war materials required by the Government of India. The supplies were made from Government institutions as well as from private industrial concerns. Several items of articles have been manufactured and sent out. They include Standard T. G. huttings, Nissen twin sheddings, petrol tanks, hangars, cisterns, pulley blocks, water lorries, roof trusses, articles of wood like barrels, packing cases, ammunition boxes, tent-poles, drawing boards and mallets, coir and rubber goods, etc. The Rubber Factory and the Government Ceramic Factory concentrated all their efforts for meeting the demands of the Supply Department of the Government of India.

The State forests supplied a large quantity of timber required for defence purposes. Over 156,000 cft. of junglewood timber of superior quality, 29,000 cft. of teak and 73,000 cft. of rosewood logs and scantlings were supplied during the year by the Forest Department and by purchase contractors. Besides bulk timber 469 teak poles and 645 cft. of junglewood piles were also supplied by the Forest Department.

War Recruitment.

The response from the youth of the State to the call for service in the fighting forces was remarkable. The Central War Recruitment Committee established for the purpose of facilitating recruitment from the State functioned actively throughout the year. Recruitment continued with unabated enthusiasm throughout the year by the end of which Travancore had supplied more than 70,000 recruits to the various branches of the Armed Forces besides 63 labour units for works in Assam and neighbouring places. The above account is by no means complete. Several others—doctors, nurses, engineers, technicians, etc.—have also joined the war service. The State recruits have distinguished themselves by their exceptional

abilities, valour and devotion to duty and three such cases have been reported to Government during the year as being mentioned in despatches etc. Major General R. P. L. Ranking of the Labour Units Headquarters, Assam has expressed great appreciation of the excellent and invaluable work done by the Travancore Labour Units on projects of the highest importance and priority such as air fields, roads, depots and railways.

War Technicians.

The War Technicians Training Scheme forms a significant part of the war effort of the State. The Travancore University has played an important role in this scheme. The Workshops of the College of Engineering afford facilities for training men as fitters, engine drivers, boiler attendants, electricians, blacksmiths, tin and copper smiths, welders, carpenters and textile refitters. The trainees after completion of their course are drafted to the Indian Army Ordnance Corps, the various technical branches of the Indian Army, Ordnance Factories or civil industry. The Government P. W. D. Workshops and the State Transport Workshops are also utilised as training centres.

The Indian Air Training Corps.

The Travancore University is also a centre for the Indian Air Training Corps which has been organised with a view to giving pre-service training to persons desirous of joining the Indian Air Force. The I. A. T. C. classes are held in the College of Engineering and the professional staff deputed by the Government of India is assisted by an instructor from the College. The response from the students was very satisfactory and two courses of training were completed during the year.

The War and the People.

The continued success of the allied armies in all the theatres of war has been greeted with great enthusiasm by the people of the State and they are putting forth a supreme effort for the final victory. Following the lead given by His Highness the Maharaja, the people have thrown themselves heart and soul into the organisation of war effort and they have made notable contributions towards the prosecution of the war. The War Purposes Central Committee, constituted in 1940, under

the Chairmanship of Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar raised nearly Rs. 4,32,240 (till the end of September 1944) for making suitable arrangements for the welfare of the families of the men serving in the armed forces. Over and above the contributions made by the Committee in previous years for providing amenities for troops, a sum of Rs. 17,035 was donated by the Committee during the year under report for various items of war work.

The Contribution of Women.

The Central Committee has a Women's Sub Committee which deals with war work among women. Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi has been taking keen interest in the work of this sub-committee and is the source of inspiration for the women's branch of the War Purposes Committee. A large number of women throughout the State are working under the auspices and guidance of the sub-committee and they are turning out articles such as shirts, hand-kerchiefs, pants, jackets, swabs, dressing etc, for the comforts of service personnel. Educated young women of Travancore have joined the W. A. C. (I) in large numbers.

Welfare Work in Travancore.

In order to attend to the welfare of the families of Travancoreans on war service, a Welfare organisation called the Travancore State Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmens' Board has been constituted with the Dewan as the Chairman; and an officer designated the State Welfare Officer has been appointed. He deals with all representations from the service personnel such as for the stay of proceedings in civil suits under the Soldiers' Litigation Act, grant of fee concessions to their school-going sons and daughters, provision of medical aid to their relatives, grant of family pensions and financial assistance and the grant of leave and discharge from the service. All such representations, after the necessary enquiries are transmitted to the authorities concerned with his recommendations.

A fund named the Travancore State Benevolent Fund parallel to the Indian Army Benevolent Fund has been started to give immediate and temporary financial assistance to the dependants of deceased or incapacitated soldiers, sailors and airmen.

CHAPTER III.

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Ruler.

The Ruler is the source of all authority in Travancore. For more than half a century, however, the Maharajas of Travancore have treated the revenues of the State as public funds in the strict sense of the term, appropriating to their own use only a very modest civil list which is exhibited in the annual budget of the State. The proportion of the civil list to the total revenue is small. The percentage was 8·76 in 1062, 6·86 in 1072, 6·57 in 1082, 4·04 in 1092, 3·83 in 1102, 3·58 in 1112 and 2·59 in 1119.

The Chief Executive Officer.

The Government of the country is conducted in the name and under the control of His Highness the Maharaja. The Minister is designated Dewan. He is appointed by a *Neet* or Commission under Sign Manual. The Dewan is assisted by an organised Secretariat closely resembling that of the Government of India and a public service constituted generally on the British Indian model.

Administration.

The entire administration is carried on through several well-organised departments. The activities of these departments are separately and briefly described in the following chapters. Every administrative head addresses his proposals to the Government, and these recommendations are considered in the Secretariat and where necessary, are scrutinised by the Account and Audit Office. The decisions of the Government, which, in olden times, were issued over the signature of the head of the administration in the form of *Chattavariolas* on palm leaves and later on in Malayalam and Tamil communications on paper have for many years past been issued in English by the Chief Secretary to Government in the form of orders, proceedings or letters. The commands of the Ruler are always issued in the form of Proclamations or *Neets* under Sign Manual. Except for purposes of

legislation and the conduct of important ceremonies of State the Ruler rarely issues such direct commands in matters affecting the public administration. All notifications, proceedings and other matters to be made known generally are published in the *Government Gazette* which is issued every Tuesday in English and in Malayalam and Tamil. The *Gazette* is now in its eighty-second year. The history of Travancore for nearly a century without interruption reveals the fact that the administration, adapting itself from time to time to modern forms of government, without abandoning its pristine characteristics and ideals has been conducted with a view to the progressive well-being of the country. A code of enactments for Travancore was first promulgated in 1835 A. D. Of these, Acts I to VII of 1010 M. E. provided for the working, powers and jurisdiction of law courts. Parts of Acts I and IV survive on the Statute Book. Both relate to interest awardable under decrees. As the years have gone by, the volume of legislation has become large and comprehensive.

Taxation.

The revenue of the State is derived mainly from a system of (*a*) direct taxation, (*b*) indirect taxation, (*c*) commercial services and (*d*) levies in connection with specific services. Taxation is covered by authority conferred by various statutory enactments; the tax-payer's obligations are defined and known; and collection is made on an established system. There are only two sources of revenue by direct taxation, *viz.*, land revenue and income tax. The incidence of taxation per head of the population in the case of land revenue was, in the year under report, ·7 of a rupee. Taxes falling within the second category are for the most part, duties on raw products or manufactured goods exported from Travancore, such as tea, coir, fibre, yarn and other products of the cocoanut palm, pepper, salted fish, turmeric, vegetable oils, etc. There is also a system of import duties based mainly on the British Indian tariff. The general stamp revenue is also appreciable. Next come indirect taxes, both fiscal and regulatory in character, such as import duty on foreign liquor and excise duty on country liquor. The income derived from salt and tobacco is

considerable. The commercial and quasi-commercial departments yielding revenue are Forest, Anchal, Transport and Railways. Under class (*d*) is an appreciable income derived from such specific services as registration of documents, court fees and tolls.

Application of Revenue.

The budget is framed annually and assigns most of the income of the year to the well-being of the people. Education, public health, medical relief, the protection of person and property, the administration of justice and the provision of communications and irrigation facilities consume the bulk of the revenue.

The Legislature.

Early Constitution.

Travancore was the first Indian State to have a Legislative Council; a Council with a minimum of five members having been brought into existence as early as 1888 A. D. The strength and the powers of the Council grew steadily with the passing of years until as a result of the Legislative Reforms Act of 1108 M. E., (1932 A. D.), the legislature was reconstituted in its present form.

The Present Legislature.

The present legislature consists of two Houses *viz.*, the Sri Mulam Assembly which is the lower House and the Sri Chitra State Council which is the upper House. The Assembly consists of seventy-two members of whom sixty-two are non-officials and ten officials. The non-officials form 83 per cent. of the number of members. Forty-three non-official members are elected by general territorial constituencies and five by special constituencies. Fourteen non-official seats are reserved for nomination by Government in order to give representation to minority communities and other inadequately represented interests. The Dewan is the President of the Assembly, but a Deputy President elected by the Assembly is

The Sri Mulam Assembly.

empowered to preside at meetings in the absence of the President. The State Council is composed of thirty seven members of whom twenty-seven or 73 per cent. are non-officials and ten officials. Sixteen non-official members are elected by the general territorial constituencies and six by special constituencies. Five non-officials are nominated by the Government. The Dewan is the President of the Council also. A panel of chairmen is also nominated.

The Sri Chitra State Council.

The equality of women with men in the matter of voting and membership in regard to both Chambers is maintained.

Franchise

According to the latest electoral rules issued under the Legislative Reforms Act of 1108. all persons who hold lands within the State as registered owners, inamdars, tenants or *kudiyans* assessable to a tax of one rupee or more, persons who are assessed in a municipality to land or building or professional tax of any amount, persons who are assessed to income tax, all graduates of recognised universities in the British Empire who are not undergoing a course of instruction in a recognised institution, all discharged, retired or pensioned military officers of the Travancore State Forces or of His Majesty's Army or Navy residing in Travancore and all persons who are certified holders of fixed engines for fishing are eligible for the exercise of the franchise in the general constituencies of the Assembly, provided they are not under twenty-one years of age. The franchise for the State Council follows mainly the heads of qualifications for that relating to the Assembly but is fixed upon a higher standard. The property qualification is fixed at the payment of an annual land tax of Rs. 25 or a Municipal tax of Rs. 5, and educational qualification is limited to graduates of ten years' standing. Those who earn a monthly pension of not less than one hundred rupees on retirement from Government service are also eligible to vote in the general constituencies. Persons below the age of thirty are not eligible as voters or as candidates to the State Council.

Powers of the Legislature.

Both houses of the legislature have the right to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss the annual budget and to ask questions and move resolutions on matters of general public interest. All legislative measures generally require the assent of both chambers before they can be passed into law. The new legislature not only retains all the old powers of legislation but is also free to consider many matters which were not open to discussion before. Measures affecting the Ruling Family, the relations with the Paramount Power and the provisions of the Legislative Reforms Act are some of the very few topics removed from the cognisance of the legislature. Provisions relating to the emergency powers of legislation and other powers vested in the Dewan and the Ruler's prerogative to legislate independently of the legislature are retained. The budget is presented to both Houses. The Assembly has a larger control than the State Council over finance, since the former has the right to reduce or omit the grants forming part of a demand, while the latter has to deal with each demand as a whole and is not entitled to to move for reduction of the grant or any item of the grant comprising the demand. Provision is made for the constitution of joint committees comprised of an equal number of members from both chambers to settle any difference of opinion arising between them. A Public Accounts Committee is constituted to deal with the audit and appropriation of the accounts of Government. The right of asking supplementary questions is extended to all members. These constitutional reforms embody a substantial devolution of powers on the representatives of the people in the best interests of the State.

CHAPTER IV.

FINANCE.

A general summary of the financial transactions of the year 1119 as compared with those of 1118 is furnished below :—

	1118. (*In lakhs of Rs.*)	1119. (*In lakhs of Rs.*)
Ordinary Revenue receipts ...	398·08	506·11
Expenditure charged to revenue ...	294·88	366·20
Contribution to Post-war Reconstruction Fund ...	103·20	130·91
Contribution to Revenue Reserve Fund ...	...	9·00
Capital expenditure outside the revenue account ...	32·19	45·37
Debt Head Transactions ...	(+)52·55	(+)203·42
Opening cash balance ...	94.21	114·57
Closing cash balance ...	114·57	272·62

Revenue.

The ordinary revenue for the year 1119 mounted up to Rs. 506·11 lakhs—*vide* Statement 'A' at the end of the chapter—a peak figure never attained before against Rs. 398·08 lakhs only in 1118, thereby recording an improvement to the extent of Rs. 108·03 lakhs. The major heads of account which mainly contributed to the above betterment are Customs (Rs. 7·53 lakhs), Excise (Rs. 14·39 lakhs), Forest (Rs. 19·32 lakhs), Taxes on Income (Rs. 54·85 lakhs), Railways (Rs. 3·35 lakhs), Interest (Rs. 3·29 lakhs), Currency and Mint (Rs. 2·38 lakhs), Buildings, Communications, etc., (Rs. 8·63 lakhs) and Receipts from Electric Schemes (Rs. 1·99 lakh).

Larger receipts under the items 'Land Customs—Exports', 'Duty on Matches' and contribution received from the

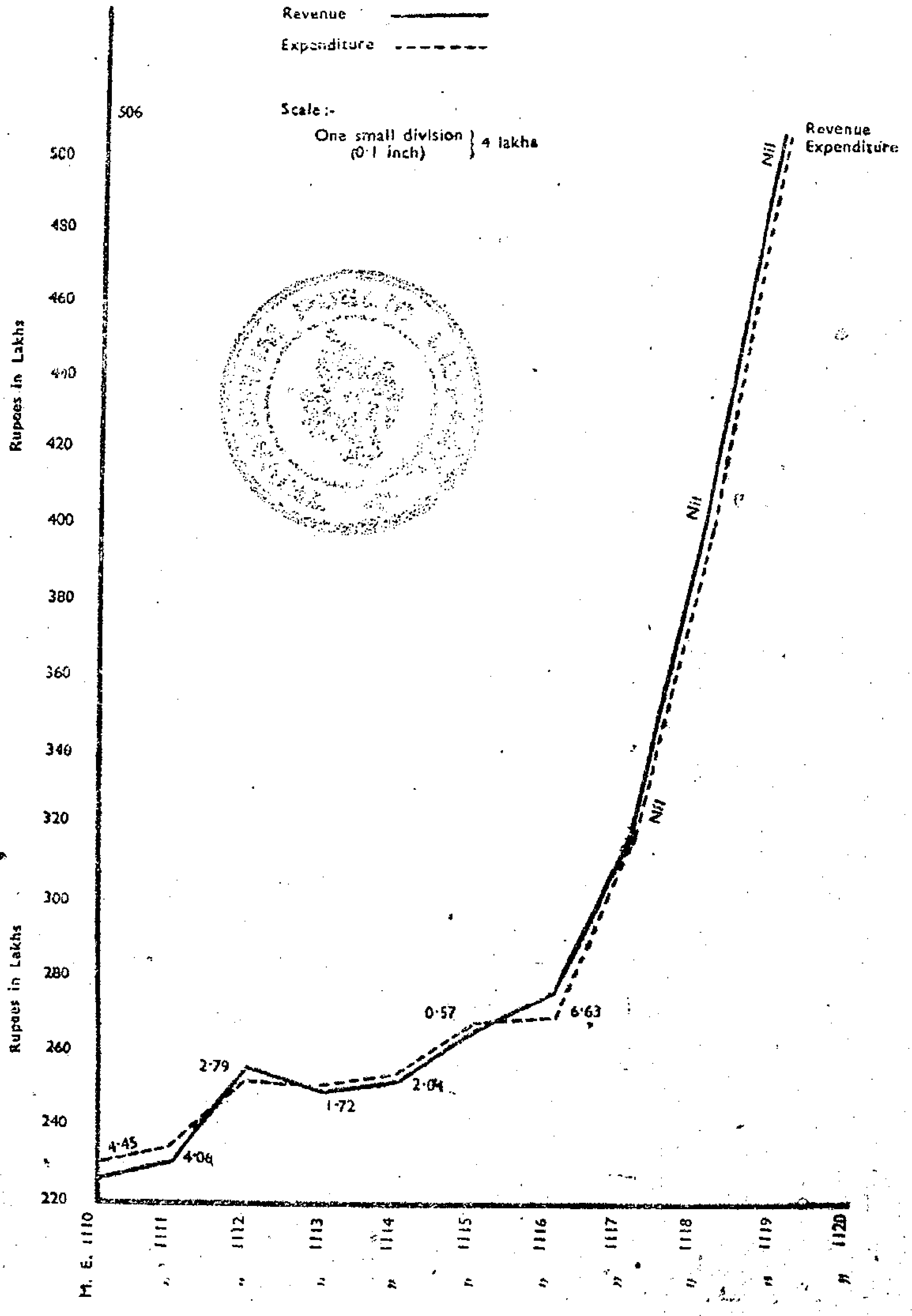
Government of India on account of Match Excise Duty set off to some extent by fall under 'Land Customs Imports' and under 'Net Receipts from the Cochin Harbour Scheme' explain the betterment observed under Customs revenue. A general improvement is observed under almost all the sub-heads under 'Excise' and this accounts for the increase under the above major head of account. Larger sales and higher prices obtained for timber and soft wood due to war conditions have contributed to the major portion of the improvement noticed under 'Forest'. The increase under 'Taxes on Income' is due partly to the levy with effect from 1-1-1119 of surcharge on the rates of income tax and super tax and also to the tax on agricultural incomes. The receipts from Railways have also increased appreciably due to war conditions. The larger investments of surplus balances account for the increase under 'Interest'. The increase under 'Currency and Mint' was mainly due to the adjustment of the gain on silver coins minted. The apparent increase observed under 'Buildings, Communications, etc.' was due mainly to the adjustment of the arrears of Road Fund revenue which stood provisionally credited to 'Suspense Receipts,' to the proper head of account, *viz.*, 'Subventions from the Central Road Fund' in the accounts for 1119. The increase of about Rs. 2 lakhs observed under 'Electricity' was due to larger receipts realised from the working of the P. H. E. Scheme.

The main items under which there was appreciable decrease in revenue during the year were 'Receipts from Miscellaneous Departments' and 'Miscellaneous Receipts.' Less receipts under 'Mining—Royalty' and under 'Rubber Factory,' account for the fall under the former head of account. There was a special receipt of nearly Rs. 10 lakhs in 1118 being the gain on the sale of certain investments and this accounts for the increased receipts in that year under 'XXXVII Miscellaneous'. Excluding this special receipt, the receipts in 1119 showed an improvement to the extent of nearly Rs. 4 lakhs.

The expenditure charged to revenue for the year—*vide* Statement 'B' at the end of the chapter—excluding the adjustment of Rs. 130·91 lakhs to the Post-war Reconstruction Fund and of Rs. 9 lakhs to the Revenue

Expenditure.

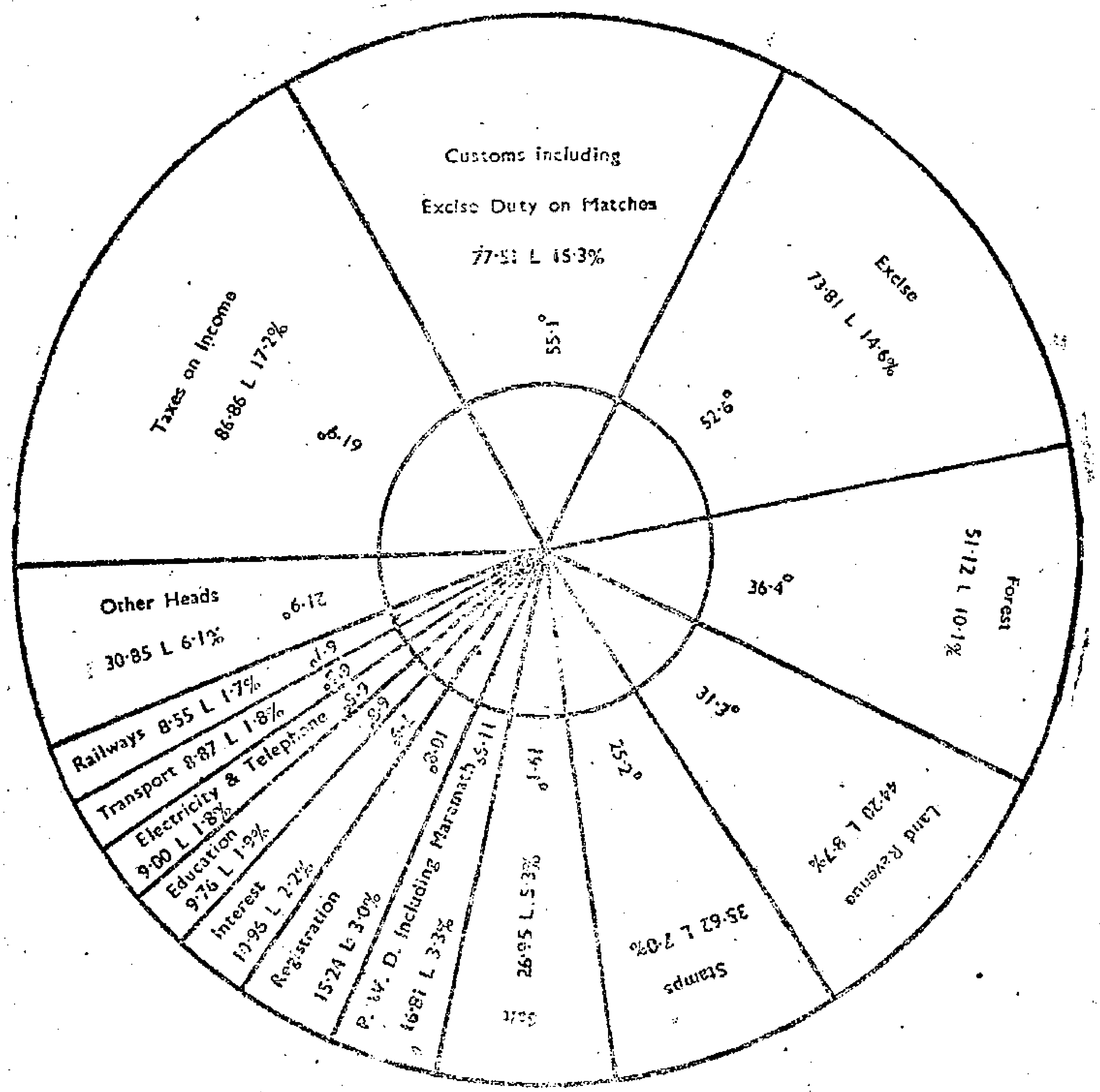
REVENUE & EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE



PROPORTION OF REVENUE RECEIPTS OF THE STATE

FOR 1119 M. E. UNDER THE VARIOUS HEADS TO THE TOTAL ORDINARY REVENUE

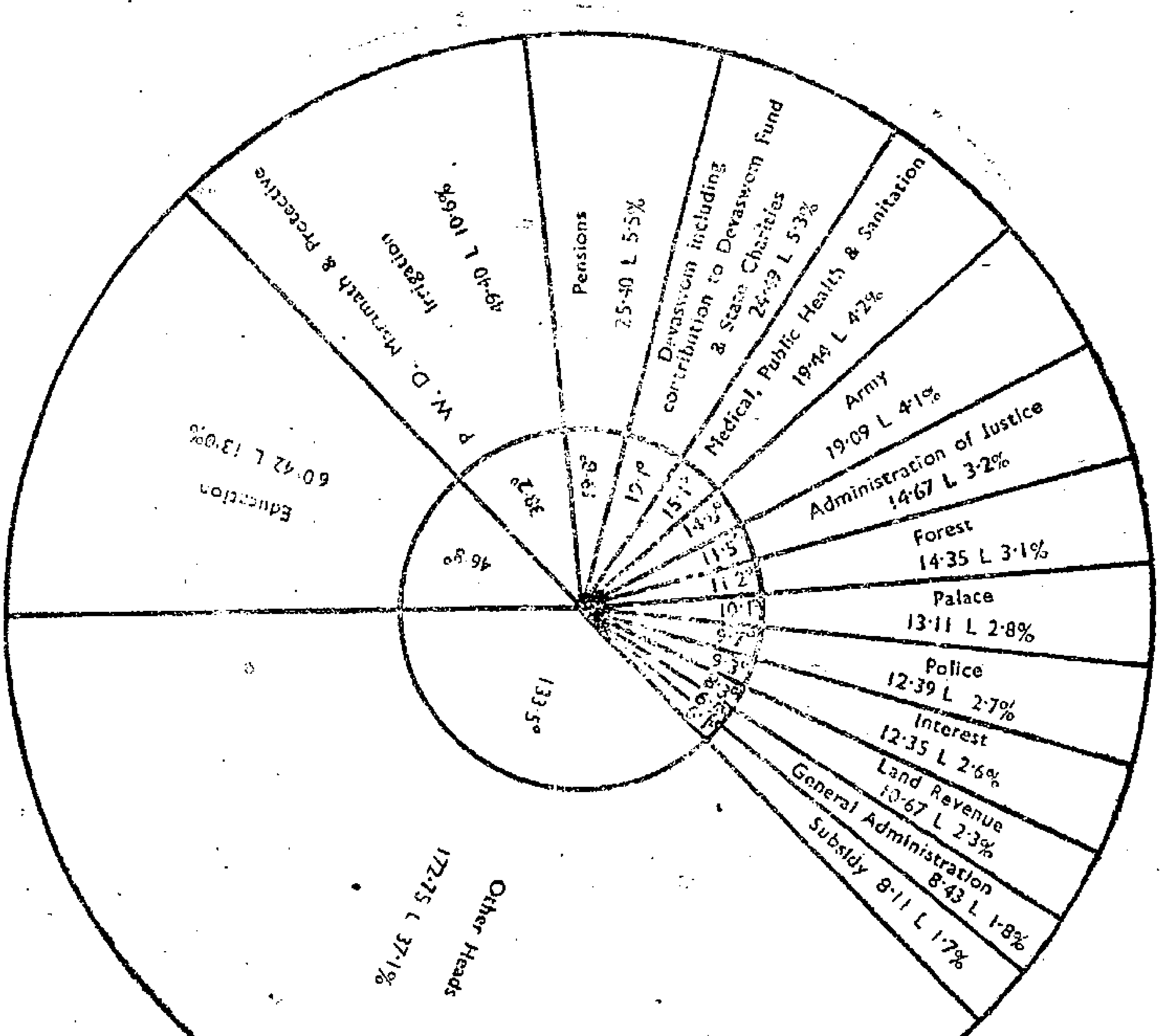
(In Lakhs of Rupees)



PROPORTION OF EXPENDITURE OF THE STATE

FOR 1119 M. E. UNDER THE VARIOUS HEADS TO THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE (CHARGED TO REVENUE) EXCLUDING "COLLECTION CHARGES" TREATED AS DIRECT DEMANDS ON REVENUE

(In Lakhs of Rupees)



Reserve Fund, amounted to Rs. 366·20 lakhs from which it may be seen that the ordinary revenue expenditure for the year under review was Rs. 71·32 lakhs more than that of the previous year.

The increase in the rates of war allowance and the extension of the scope of the same chiefly account for the major portion of the increased expenditure under the several major heads of account. The increase of Rs. 5 lakhs under 'Forests' is due to increased expenditure under 'Conservancy and Works'. The increase under Savings Bank balances, the payment of interest on the overdrafts in the Imperial Bank of India and the preliminary expenses in connection with the flotation of the three per cent. loan, 1956, account for the increase of Rs. 5·58 lakhs under the major head '12.—Interest'. Under 'Education', the expenditure rose from Rs. 53·94 lakhs in 1118 to Rs. 60·42 lakhs in 1119, thereby recording an excess of Rs. 6·48 lakhs mainly due to the grant of war allowance to the Government employees as well as to teachers serving in grant-in-aid schools. The increase to the extent of Rs. 3·95 lakhs under 'Stationery and Printing' was due mainly to the prevailing high prices of stationery articles. The abnormal increase in the cost of labour and materials, the grant of war allowance to subordinates, the adjustment of the arrears of Road Development Fund revenue by debit to the P. W. D. and credit to P. W. Revenue and the transfer of the unspent balances under 'Original Works' to a separate Reserve Fund for being utilised in subsequent years account for the increased expenditure to the extent of over Rs. 19 lakhs under the major head '36-Buildings, etc'. The increase in the number of personnel in the State Forces and the revision of salaries have contributed to the increased expenditure under Army. The expenditure incurred on Food and other various control measures accounts for the increase under the major head '43.—Miscellaneous-Political Expenditure'.

The revenue surplus for the year 1119 amounted to Rs. 139·91 lakhs as against Rs. 103·20 lakhs in 1118. Out of the above, Rs. 9 lakhs was transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund and Rs. 130·91 lakhs to the Post-war Reconstruction Fund, while the entire surplus of Rs. 103·20 lakhs in 1118 was credited to the Post-war Reconstruction Fund. This explains the variation noticed under the two heads 'Revenue Reserve Fund' and 'Post-war Reconstruction Fund'.

The only major head under which an apparent decrease in expenditure is observed is '45.—Miscellaneous'. This was mainly due to the fact that the dearness allowances paid to Government servants in 1118 were accounted for in a lump under this head, while in 1119 these allowances were classified as War Allowances under the several major heads concerned.

The following statement gives a progressive account of the outlay on larger capital schemes up to the end of 1119:—

	Rs. in lakhs.
Kodayar Irrigation Project	81·34
Quilon-Trivandrum Railway	54·05
Chackai-Thampanoor Extension	21·95
Willingdon Water Works	58·16
Bridge at Neriamangalam	4·35
Neendakara Bridge	5·36
Drainage Scheme (Trivandrum and Alleppey)	24·11
Mofussil water supply schemes	27·40
Town Improvement Works	19·71
The Council Chamber	2·75
University Buildings	1·00
Dustless surfacing to M. S. Road	15·32
Military Buildings	15·58
Trivandrum Electric Supply	12·19
P. H. E. Scheme	222·28
Telephone scheme	13·05
Radio Broadcasting	1·85
Rubber Factory	4·73
Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory	11·86
State Transport	14·69
Coastal Transport	8·45
Vanchi Clay Mines	1·02
Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore, Ltd.	1·34

The assets and liabilities in the books of the Government as they stood on the 31st Karkatakam 1119 are furnished at the end of the chapter.

The fluid balances of Government in cash and gilt-edged securities stood at Rs. 374·42 lakhs at the close of the year comprising Rs. 272·62 lakhs in cash in Government treasuries and banks, Rs. 81·44 lakhs as investments in Government securities at their purchase prices and Rs. 20·36 lakhs as short term deposits in banks.

The balance under 'Loans' advanced by Government for agricultural and other purposes stood at Rs. 55·14 lakhs as detailed below:—

	Rs. in lakhs.
Loan to the Cochin Harbour authorities for Harbour works	35·86
Do. for dredging plant	5.10
Agricultural loans	5.39
Industrial loans	0.57
Loan to Alleppey Municipality for water supply scheme	5.80
Do. to Trivandrum Corporation	1.00
Miscellaneous loans	1·42
Total	55.14

STATEMENT—A.

Statement comparing the Receipts of 1119 with those of 1118.

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees.)

	Head of Account.	1118.	1119	Difference.
I.	Customs	69·98	77·51	(+) 7·53
II.	Excise	59·42	73·81	(+) 14·39
III.	Land Revenue	42·86	44·20	(+) 1·34
IV.	Salt	27·29	26·95	(−) 0·34
V	Stamps	35·48	35·62	(+) 0·14
VI.	Forests	31·80	51·12	(+) 19·32
VII.	Taxes on Income	32·01	86·86	(+) 54·85
VIII.	Registration	15·34	15·24	(−) 0·10
IX.	Railways (Net Receipts)	5·20	8·55	(+) 3·35
X.	Productive Irrigation	0·92	0·32	(−) 0·60
XI.	Anchal (Net Receipts)	1·48	1·78	(+) 0·30
XII.	Interest	7·67	10·96	(+) 3·29
XIII.	H. H. The Maharaja's Garage and Stables	0·06	0·27	(+) 0·21
XIV.	Administration of Justice	0·75	1·38	(+) 0·63
XV.	Jails	0·42	0·74	(+) 0·32
XVI.	Police	1·14	1·09	(−) 0·05
XVII.	Ports	0·05	0·06	(+) 0·01
XVIII.	Education	8·94	9·76	(+) 0·81
XIX.	Agriculture	0·19	0·30	(+) 0·11
XX.	Industries	0·11	0·12	(+) 0·01
XXI.	Medical and Ayurveda	0·44	0·56	(+) 0·12
XXII.	Public Health and Sanitation	0·09	0·12	(+) 0·03
XXIII.	Devaswoms	0·02	0·03	(+) 0·01
XXIV.	Currency and Mint	1·38	3·76	(+) 2·38
XXV.	Stationery and Printing	3·02	2·48	(−) 0·54
XXVI.	Miscellaneous Departments	11·34	7·10	(−) 4·24
XXVII.	Buildings, Communications &c.	8·16	16·79	(+) 8·63
XXVIII.	Water Supply and Drainage	0·99	0·94	(—) 0·05
XXIX.	Maramath	..	0·02	(+) 0·02
XXX.	Receipts from Electric Schemes (Net Receipts)	5·93	7·92	(+) 1·99
XXXI.	Telephone Scheme (Net Receipts)	0·69	1·08	(+) 0·39
XXXII.	State Transport Scheme (do.)	7·47	8·87	(+) 1·40
XXXII (a)	Coastal Transport (do.)	0·19	(—) 0·32	(−) 0·51
XXXIII.	Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory (do.)	0·53	0·39	(—) 0·14
XXXIV.	Army	0·13	0·26	(+) 0·13
XXXV.	Receipts in aid of pensions &c.	1·10	1·13	(+) 0·03
XXXVI.	Receipts from State Guests Department	0·05	0·08	(+) 0·03
XXXVII.	Miscellaneous	12·50	6·61	(—) 5·89
XXXVIII.	Extraordinary Receipts	2·94	1·66	(−) 1·28
	Total	398·08	506·11	(+) 108·03

STATEMENT B.

Comparative statement of disbursements under Major Heads for the years 1118 and 1119.

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees)

Item No.	Head of account.	1118.	1119.	Difference.
1	Customs	1·02	1·37	(+)0·35
2	Excise	4·83	6·39	(+)1 56
3	Land Revenue	9·10	10·67	(+)1·57
4	Salt	1·64	1·68	(+)0·04
5	Stamps	0·83	1·26	(+)0·43
6	Forests	9·35	14·35	(+)5·00
7	Taxes on Income	0·34	0·46	(+ 0·12
8	Registration	3·58	4·86	(+)1·28
8 A	Survey of Minor Circuits	0·10	0 09	(−)0·01
9	State Railways—Interest on Debt on Railway Debenture Loan	0·02	0·01	(−)0·01
9 B	Construction of Railways	...	0·01	(+)0·01
10	Protective Irrigation	2·25	2·48	(+)0·23
10 C	Irrigation Capital Account	...	0·13	(+)0·13
11 D	Anchal Capital Account	0·01	0·04	(+)0·03
12	Interest on debt and other obligation	6·77	12·35	(+)5·58
13	Interest on capital outlay on commercial scheme	8·62	9·73	(+)1·11
14	Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt	1·16	1·16	...
15	Palace	10·29	13·11	(+)2·82
16	Panivagai	2·39	2·56	(+)0·17
17	H. H. The Maharaja's Garage and Stables	1·37	2·02	(+)0·65
18	H. H. The Maharaja's tours outside the State	0·11	0·73	(+)0·62
19	General Administration	7·22	8·43	(+)1·21
20	Administration of Justice	12·32	14 67	(+)2·35
21	Jails	1·97	2·40	(+)0·43
22	Police	9·56	12·39	(+)2·83
23	Ports	0·21	0·24	(+)0·03

STATEMENT B—(*contd*)

Comparative statement of disbursements under Major Heads for the years 1118 and 1119.

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees)

Item No.	Head of account.	1118.	1119.	Difference.
24	Education	53·94	60·42	(+) 6·48
25	Agriculture	1·46	1·83	(+) 0·37
26	Industries	0·76	0·99	(+) 0·23
27	Co-operative Department	0·97	1·09	(+) 0·12
28	Uplift of Backward Communities	0·50	0·65	(+) 0·15
29	Medical and Ayurveda	12·83	14·94	(+) 2·11
30	Public Health and Sanitation	3·21	4·50	(+) 1·29
31	Devaswoms	7·03	8·43	(+) 1·40
32	State Charities	0·08	0·06	(−) 0·02
33	Currency and Mint	0·04	0·07	(+) 0·03
34	Stationery and Printing	4·43	8·38	(+) 3·95
35	Miscellaneous Departments	2·01	2·21	(+) 0·20
36	Buildings, Communications etc.	26·51	45·60	(+) 19·09
37	Water Supply and Drainage	1·14	1·47	(+) 0·33
38	Electrical works to Government Buildings	0·89	1·38	(+) 0·49
39	Maramath	0·91	1·32	(+) 0·41
40	Army	16·86	19·09	(+) 2·23
41	Subsidy	8·11	8·11	...
42	Political Pensions	3·89	4·25	(+) 0·36
43	Miscellaneous Political Expenditure	5·52	11·94	(+) 6·42
44	Superannuation allowances and pensions	19·42	21·15	(+) 1·73
45	Miscellaneous	7·22	3·24	(−) 3·98
45 A	Contribution to War Fund	5·09	4·49	(—) 0·60
45 B	Do. to Distress Relief Fund	1·00	1·00	...
45 C	Do to Revenue Reserve Fund	...	9·00	(+) 9·00
45 D	Do. to Post war Reconstruction Fund	103·20	130·91	(+) 27·71
46	Do. to Devaswom Fund	16·00	16·00	...
	Total	398·08	506·11	(+) 108·03

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the Books of the Government during the years 1117 to 1119.

(*N. B.* The figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

Liabilities.	1117	1118	1119
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Devaswom Fund	3·05	2·11	− 1·51
2. Kandukrishy Fund	2 25	2·94	4·21
3. Savings Bank Deposits	288·93	406·15	466·08
4. Deposits of Service & other Funds	6·35	5·08	..
5. Life Insurance Funds	17·96	21·57	26·18
6. Teachers' Provident Fund	6·64	7·37	8 08
7. State Provident Fund	21·18	24·63	27·96
8. Defence Provident Fund	..	..	0·03
9. Work Establishment Provident Fund	0·03	0·05	0·07
10. Sinking Funds			
(a) 3½ per cent loan 1956	2·73	3·33	3·96
(b) Special loans	1·35	2·02	2·75
11. Reserve Fund—Land Mortgage Bank	1·59	1·59	1·59
12. Depreciation Fund—			
(a) Electricity and Telephone	8·82	10 24	13·40
(b) State Transport	3·64	5·50	5·53
(c) Rubber Factory	0·04	0·04	0·30
(d) Ceramic Factory	..	..	1·75
13. General Reserve Fund—State Transport	0·21	0·88	3·05
14. Transport Insurance Fund	0·25	0·25	0·25
15. General Reserve Fund	75·30	75·30	75·30
16. Revenue Reserve Fund	47·23	47·23	56·23
17. Post War Reconstruction Fund	.	103·20	234·11
18. Distress Relief Fund	2·95	3·76	4·66
19. Travancore University Fund	6·37	9·02	..
20. Irrigation Fund	8·16	9·12	9 47
21. Fund for Sinking of Wells	0·11	0·14	0·17
22. Reserve Fund for original Works—P. W. D.	..	..	0·60
23. Road Development Fund	0·85	0 83	7·21
24. Agricultural Research Fund	− 0·01	− 0·10	− 0·07
25. Departmental & other Deposits	40·74	65 40	103·44
26. Mint Advance	.	4·38	..
27. Suspense Account (Credit)	11·07	4·67	..
28. 5 per cent. Debenture Loan 1091	0·50	0·40	0·35
29. 3½ per cent. Loan 1956	50·89	50·89	50·89
30. 3 per cent. Loan 1952-54	..	..	305·71
31. Special Loans	83·15	141·02	114·46
32. Remittances	10·43	10·46	19·78
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	69·65	64·95	51·30
Grand Total	772·41	1084·42	1596·69

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the Books of the Government during the years 1117 to 1119.—(contd.)

(*N.B.* The figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

	Assets.	1117	1118	1119
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.	Cash Balance	94·21	114·57	272·62
2.	Surplus Investments in Govt. Securities	45·22	81·21	81·44
3.	Special Deposits & Shares in Industrial concerns	8·49	8·87	16·15
4.	Shares in the Travancore Credit Bank	13·23	13·23	13·23
5.	Share Purchase	...	5·09	2·16
6.	Share Investment Account	...	...	23·96
7.	Sinking Fund Investments – Special Loans	0·65	0·65	0·65
8.	Deposits not bearing interest with the Imperial Bank	2·54	2·54	2·54
9.	Do. Central Banking Corporation	...	2·55	2·55
10.	Do. with the Credit Bank	1·32	...	...
11.	General Reserve Fund – Investment Account	74·37	74·37	74·37
12.	Life Insurance Public Branch do.	12·98	16·60	21·22
13.	Defence Provident Fund do.	...	0·01	0·01
14.	Distress Relief Fund do.	2·50	3·54	4·56
15.	Bullion Account	63·68	1·54	6·89
16.	Investments on Reproductive Works			
	(a) Trivandrum Electric Supply	11·92	12·19	12·19
	(b) P. H. E. Scheme	174·29	194·49	222·28
	(c) Telephone Scheme	11·45	12·12	13·05
	(d) Radio Broadcasting	1·11	1·29	1·85
	(e) State Transport	10·68	11·40	14·69
	(f) Clay Refining & Porcelain Factory	11·11	11·68	11·86
	(g) Rubber Factory	4·73	4·71	4·73
	(h) Railways	82·96	82·53	76·00
	(i) Coastal Transport	...	5·29	8·45
	(j) Vanchi Clay Mines & Refinery	...	...	1·02
	(k) Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	...	...	1·34
17.	Short term deposits in Banks	30·54	55·98	20·36
18.	Advances Repayable	12·99	248·05	573·12
19.	Accounts with British Government and Foreign States	3·82	10·21	...
20.	Departmental Balances	1·28	2·27	...
21.	Suspense Account (Debit)	13·42	26·36	53·26
22.	Stock	16·66	22·69	
23.	Loans made by Government	66.26	58·39	55·14
	Grand Total	772·41	1084·42	1596·69

CHAPTER V.

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

Land Revenue.

Basis of Land Rights.

The lands in the State, broadly classified, are of two distinct kinds from the point of view of ownership, tenure and incidence of taxation, one being *pandaravaka* (literally, belonging to the Sirkar) forming more than seventy-five per cent. of the total area and the other *jenmom* (belonging to a *jenmi* or landlord). In both cases the rights of the ryots are fixed and secure and are governed by statutes and custom, the ryot deriving his title from the Sirkar or a *jenmi*, as the case may be. The Proclamation dated the 21st Edavam 1040 M. E./2nd June 1865 A. D., enfranchised the Sirkar *pattom* lands and declared "that the ryots holding these lands may regard them fully as private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property" and the Devaswom Proclamation dated the 30th Meenam 1097/12th April 1922, extended the same rights to holders of Sirkar Devaswom lands. The Jenmi and Kudiyan Act, V of 1071, defined the law relating to the respective rights of landlord and tenant in regard to *jenmom* lands. Fundamental changes were made in 1108 M. E. (1933) in regard to the *jenmikudiyan* relationship by the passing of the Jenmi and Kudiyan (Amendment) Act, XII of 1108. Under the new Act, the *kudiyan* has only to pay *jenmikaram* (*jenmis'* dues) to the *jenmi* through the Sirkar in respect of the land he holds in lieu of all and every one of the claims of the *jenmi* and the payments need be made only in money. The *kudiyan* is declared the full owner of the lands with all the rights of ownership in the same way as the holders of *pandarapattom* lands were declared owners by the Proclamation of 1040. There will be no occasion for the *jenmi* to come into contact with the *kudiyan* as the *jenmikaram* is to be collected from the

Fixity of Rights.

kudiyan and paid to the *jenmi* by Government. *Jenmom* lands have been assimilated completely to the Sirkar lands and all relations of the *kudiyan* with the *jenmi* are cut off by this Amendment Act. His Highness Sri Ayilliam Tirunal enfranchised *pandarapattom* lands by the issue of the famous *pattom* Proclamation of 1040 and His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal enfranchised *jenmom* lands by passing Act XII of 1108.

Principles of Taxation.

In the case of *pandaravaka* lands held directly under the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattom* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the land which the Sirkar is entitled to. *Jenmom* lands are either entirely tax-free or are subject to payment of *Rajabhogam* (King's dues) only. In the former category are the Devaswom and Brahmaswom *tanatu* lands which remain unalienated in the hands of the original *jenmis* (either Brahmaswoms or Devaswoms); but, once they are alienated for a money consideration, they are subjected to *karampathippu* (levy of assessment) and become liable to the payment of *Rajabhogam* to the Sirkar which is over and above the *jenmi's* due. The *Rajabhogam* levied in such circumstances is, however, only a light tax varying from one-eighth to one-fourth of the full assessment. In the case of *jenmom* lands coming under the category known as *Madampimarvaka jenmom* lands the *Rajabhogam* is one-eighth of the full assessment when the lands are in the hands of the *jenmis*; but on alienation, such lands are subject to one-half of the full assessment. The *pandaravaka* lands are also subject to different rates of assessment varying from full assessment to absolute exemption from assessment. This peculiarity is due to historical, political and other causes. Favourably assessed lands date back to the remote past and new additions to the category are seldom, if ever, made.

Revenue Settlement.

The earliest revenue settlement of the lands in the State, of which any records are available, was that of 914 M. E./1738 A. D., when Travancore lay within its present limits. There were subsequent settlements in 926 M. E./1750 A. D., in 948 M. E./1772 A. D., in 978 M. E./1802 A. D., in 993 M. E./1817 A. D. and in 1012

M. E. 1836 A. D. The assessment now in force was fixed at the last settlement which was commenced in 1883 and completed in 1911. The tax fixed at that settlement was made permanent for a period of thirty years. Though this period has long expired in the case of some taluks, re-settlement has not yet been started. The results of the settlement are exhibited in printed registers which give particulars of the survey number, extent, tenure, full assessment (*pattam*), the net assessment (*irruppukaram*) etc., for each holding. A scientific survey preceded the settlement of each taluk and every parcel of land in each village which came under settlement bears a separate survey number and the registers in effect constitute a record of rights.

Classification of Tenures.

At the last settlement, an endeavour was made to systematise and simplify the tenures as far as possible without generally increasing the incidence of taxation. The names of various tenures, now of little more than historical importance as evidencing the mutations of ownership, still linger in the pages of the *Ayacut* or Settlement Register. But all these tenures fall into distinct and well-understood groups, whether classified according to the theoretical proprietorship of the lands or according to the nature of the conditions of the holding, both of which principles determine the incidence of taxation.

Method of Assessment.

The assessment of wet lands is fixed, on a yield basis in paddy, determined by the seed or sowing capacity of the land, and ranges from two-fifths to seven times the measure of seed sown in the case of single crop lands and from three-fifths to ten and a half fold for double-crop lands. The assessment of other lands, known as garden or dry lands, is fixed either on an acreage basis or on the basis of the trees grown, both not operating simultaneously. For example, if a holding of an acre has twenty cocoanut palms and ten jack trees, each of the trees is supposed to take up some space of land as "standing room" and a specific rate of tree-tax is levied for each of certain specified trees. The balance of the area not thus taken up is assessed on the acreage basis, be it cultivated, say, with tapioca or banana, or be

it uncultivated. There are fourteen *tarams* or rates of acreage assessment, based on the quality or productivity of the soil in the region. In fixing the assessment, care has been taken to provide for the lean years, and ordinarily no remission is allowed for failure of crops due to drought or excessive rainfall, though there are rules regulating the grant of seasonal remissions for proved failure of crops in the case of a few specified areas where it has not been possible to provide a sufficient margin.

Form of Tax Payment.

Formerly, tax used to be collected in money as well as in kind such as cocoanuts and paddy. At the last settlement, all taxation in kind, except paddy in respect of paddy lands, was abolished and money payments substituted. This paddy tax too was commuted into money in respect of *pandaravaka* lands in 1082 M. E./1906 A. D. Payment of rent in kind continued in respect of *Kandukrishy* and *Sripadam* lands. Even this payment in kind was changed in 1102 M. E./1927 A. D. and a system of money payments introduced as in the case of *pandaravaka* lands, the commutation rate being fixed annually in the case of Crown lands.

Land Revenue Administration.

For purposes of land revenue administration, the State is divided into three divisions. The general control of the department was with the Land Revenue Commissioner till the post was abolished towards the close of the year 1116 and the statutory and administrative powers vested in him were taken over by Government, the Division Peishkars and Assistant Peishkars. Each division is composed of *taluks* under the charge of Tahsildars and each *taluk* is sub-divided into *pakuthies* which constitute the unit of land revenue administration, a *Proverthikar* being in charge of each *pakuthi*. There are now 30 *taluks* and 421 *pakuthies*. All the permanent Tahsildars and village officers have been trained in survey.

Extent of Cultivation.

In recent years cultivation has been steadily extending into the interior. This is the result of the operation of three sets of rules which regulate the assignment of Government lands for cultivation. These are :—

(i) the Puduval Rules for the assignment of land for the older and more general forms of agriculture devoted to the raising of grains, vegetables, fruits, etc.;

(ii) the rules for the assignment of lands on the Travancore hills for the cultivation of coffee and tea ; and

(iii) the rules for the assignment of lands for the cultivation of cardamoms. While Government are anxious to open up for cultivation new areas and to encourage maximum production it was considered inexpedient at the present juncture and in order not to handicap future policy, permanently to alienate extensive areas of land. It was therefore ordered that all registries of land should be kept in abeyance and that only leases for periods ranging from 3 to 7 years should be granted.

Distribution of Land and Extent of Cultivation.

The recorded total area of the State is 4,903,520 acres. The total area under occupation at the end of the year was 2,583,666 acres against 2,582,798 acres at the end of the previous year. Of the total arable land 600,412 acres were wet lands and 1,983,254 acres dry or garden lands. The average extent of arable land per head of population was 42·56 cents.

Capital Revenue—Sale Proceeds of Land.

Until 1102, the practice was to credit the sale proceeds of Government land as ordinary revenue, but in that year the practice was superseded by the system of showing in the budget such realisations, which are more or less in the nature of capital receipts derived from permanent alienation of the assets with the Government, as capital revenue. The demand for the year under this head including the balance at the end of the previous year was Rs. 1·79 lakh against Rs. 3·12 lakhs in 1118. Of this a sum of Rs. 1·60 lakh was collected and a sum of Rs. 1,206 remitted.

The total demand under current revenue and arrears was Rs. 48·16 lakhs against Rs. 48·80 lakhs in 1118, and of this, a sum of Rs. 44·22 lakhs was collected and Rs. 1·01 lakh remitted, the percentage of collection including remission being 93·9 against 90·4 in 1118. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 2·94 lakhs against Rs. 4·69 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

The number of demand notices issued during the year fell from 6·75 lakhs in 1118 to 5·90 lakhs in 1119, and the number of distraint and attachment notices issued was 18,123 in 1119 against 32,228 in 1118. The number of defaulters whose properties were sold during the year was 6,764 against 13,885 in the previous year. The percentage of sales to the number of demand notices was 1·1 against 1·9 in 1118. The average price fetched per acre was Rs. 63·8 in the case of wet lands and Rs. 18·3 in the case of dry lands against Rs. 48 and Rs. 23 respectively in 1118. 55·8 per cent of the *Ayacut* revenue was paid by the *pattadars* on or before the due date against 50·6 per cent in 1118.

Coercive Action.

The number of revenue cases for disposal during the year was 311,349 of which 258,919 were disposed of, the percentage of disposal being 83·2 against 76·8 in 1118. Of the cases disposed of 248,600 related to transfer of registry, 4,635 were cases under the Land Conservancy Act, 3,074 were *puduval* cases, 340 were *karampathippu* cases, 1,484 were cases under the Land Acquisition Act and the rest were miscellaneous cases. The number of revenue appeals for disposal fell from 1,177 in 1118 to 777 in 1119, and of these, 732 were disposed of.

Revenue Cases.

The a· a of *puduval* lands assigned during the year was 797 acres against 2,690 acres in 1118. Of this the area assigned by auction was 16 acres and that without auction 781 acres. The total area brought under registry under the Waste Land Rules, Cardamom Rules and Puduval Rules during the year was 999 acres against 3,569 acres in the previous year. The decrease

Registry of Lands.

was due to the restrictions imposed in regard to the assignment of Government lands.

The total extent of land assigned in the names of members of backward communities up to the end of 1119 from both within and outside the earmarked area was 9,592 acres.

Conversion of Dry lands into Wet lands.

The subjoined statement furnishes details of the extent of land fit for conversion, the area converted up to the end of 1118 and during 1119 and the balance available for conversion:—

Particulars of land.	Area fit for conversion. Acres.	Area converted up to the end of 1118. Acres.	Converted during 1119. Acres.	Balance available for conversion. Acres.
Dry lands .	24,920	19,215	28	5,677
Tank-beds .	16,27	1,595	...	32
Other *porambokes* .	179	114	1	64
Total .	26,726	20,924	29	5,773

Land Acquisition Work.

There were 1,557 land acquisition cases for disposal of which 1,484 cases were disposed of. Land compensation to be paid amounted to Rs. 4·06 lakhs of which a sum of Rs. 3·59 lakhs was disbursed during the year.

Markets.

The number of public markets at the end of the year was 252 against 247 at the end of the previous year. Of these 78 were in the Trivandrum Division, 89 in the Quilon Division and 85 in the Kottayam Division; 205 were combined fish and vegetable markets, 16 vegetable markets, 16 cattle markets and 15 fish markets; 22 of these were evening markets. A sum of Rs. 2·10 lakhs was realised during the year by the lease of public markets against Rs. 1·17 lakh in 1118. There were 392 private markets

at the end of the year against 382 at the end of the previous year. The license fees realised amounted to Rs. 4,850 against Rs. 4,500 in 1118. A sum of Rs. 7,630 was spent during the year, against Rs. 5,769 in 1118, on improvements to public markets and wages to menials attached thereto.

Inspection of State Boundaries.

The taluks in which inspection of State boundaries has to be conducted are Tovala, Agastiswaram, Chirayinkil, Shencotta, Quilon, Shertalla, Vaikom, Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad, Parur, Devicolam and Peermade. The Tahsildars of all the above taluks inspected either the entire length of the boundary or a portion thereof in their respective taluks. The Division Peishkars of Trivandrum and Quilon inspected the State boundary or portions thereof in their respective Divisions, and the Division Peishkar, Kottayam inspected portions of the boundary in the taluks of Devicolam, Peermade, Vaikom and Kunnatnad.

Land Records Maintenance.

The Land Records Maintenance staff surveyed during the year 2,293 *porambokes* having an area of 356 acres and 5,776 *puduval* and other sub-divisions measuring 3,955 acres against 4,152 *porambokes* measuring 10,440 acres and 7,306 *puduval* and other sub-divisions measuring 5,196 acres in 1118. They detected 1,538 encroachments against 1,927 in 1118. The Revenue Supervisors who inspected the work of the staff verified and re-fixed theodolite stations, enquired into land complaints and attended to the work of pointing out the boundaries of registered holdings and the survey and demarcation of sub-divisions on the application of parties. They verified 4,557 *poramboke* numbers, 5,503 *puduval* and other sub-divisions and 3,245 encroachments on Government lands. The Tahsildars inspected 1,772 *poramboke* numbers, 1,813 *puduval* and other sub-divisions and 1,232 encroachments on Government lands. There were 3,812 applications for pointing out the boundaries of registered holdings and for the demarcation and survey of sub-divisions, and of these 1,585 were disposed of.

Miscellaneous.

The Division Peishkars controlled the administration of the treasuries in the State. A new sub treasury was opened at Chengannur as a disbursing treasury.

There are 369 pakuthies in the State where there are *jenmom* lands coming under Section 3 (1) of the Jenmi and Kudiyan Act.

Jenmikaram Settlement Work.

The *jenmikaram* registers of all these pakuthies were completed and finally approved; and the collection of *jenmikaram* in respect thereof has been assumed by Government. The total demand for the year under *jenmikaram* was Rs. 11,80,869 of which a sum of Rs. 8,52,738 was collected and Rs. 3,332 remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,24,799 at the end of the year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the Land Revenue Department during the year amounted to Rs. 44·12 lakhs. The expenditure was Rs. 10·03 lakhs.

Survey Department.

Superintendent, Travancore Survey. — *Mr. S. Sivaramakrishna Aiyar, M. A.*

Work of the Department.

The work of the Survey Department mainly consists of special and miscellaneous cadastral survey, training of candidates in survey and lithography of village and other maps.

Special and Miscellaneous Cadastral Survey.

The extent of lands surveyed and demarcated during the year was 1,106·32 acres of cardamom lands and 2,426·16 acres of *puduval* lands. Miscellaneous cadastral surveys over an area of 2,603·96 acres were also conducted. Computation and mapping of 55 acres of tea and rubber lands, 2,135·18 acres of cardamom lands and 6,325·30 acres of *puduval* lands were carried out. Joint inspection and verification with the British Indian authorities of portions of the State boundary were conducted during the year. The departmental officers conducted the joint verification with the Cochin authorities of portions of the single line boundary and also the verification of portions of the double line boundary between the two States.

Lithography of Maps.

Sixteen-inch maps for 41·26 square miles were printed during the year.

Land Records Maintenance.

Including the 414 field measurement sketches pending check at the end of 1118, the total number of sketches for verification was 4,611. Of these, 3,994 were returned to the Tahsildars, 2,547 after final check and 1,447 for correction. The balance left over at the end of the year was 617.

Survey Training.

There was a higher course of training in survey during the year in which 15 Government servants were trained. 396 candidates were trained in the Central Survey School during the four courses of the year and 329 were successful in the final examinations.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the Survey Department during the year amounted to Rs. 7,888. The expenditure amounted Rs. 64,518.

Income Tax.

Income Tax Commissioner. *Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L.*

Administration.

Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, Chief Secretary to Government, exercised the powers of 'Commissioner' and 'Chief Revenue Authority' under the Income Tax Act and the Agricultural Income Tax Act and was in charge of the Department. The Agricultural Income Tax Act (I of 1119) became operative during the year and to implement the working of the Act the territorial jurisdiction of the Collectors was slightly modified. The modifications made included the creation of an additional circle with headquarters at Alleppey.

The number of assessees under Income Tax rose from 3,428 in 1118 to 3,883 in 1119. Of these, 3,541 were individuals, 322 companies and 20 registered firms. The number of assessments made under the Agricultural Income Tax Act during the year was 453, of which 399 were individuals and 54 companies.

Assessment Proceedings.

The aggregate demand for the year under Income Tax and Agricultural Income Tax amounted to Rs. 94,84,903 of which Rs. 88,39,467 was collected and Rs. 73,086 was either remitted or written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,72,350 pending collection at the end of the year.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

During the year under report there was a marked increase in the revenue from Income Tax. This increase was due partly to the levy of a surcharge on the basic rates of Income Tax and Super Tax charged under Act X of 1119, the larger profits derived by the assessees and the careful and systematic scrutiny of their accounts by the department. The total demand under Income Tax inclusive of arrears was Rs. 76·74 lakhs against Rs. 36·34 lakhs in 1118. Including the remission of Rs. 70,802 the total collection amounted to Rs. 72·31 lakhs, the percentage of collection being 94·2 against 92·7 in 1118. There was a balance of Rs. 4·43 lakhs pending collection at the end of the year as against Rs. 2·65 lakhs at the end of 1118.

The total demand under Agricultural Income Tax was Rs. 18·1 lakhs out of which a sum of Rs. 16·79 lakhs was collected and a sum of Rs. 2,284 was remitted leaving a balance of Rs. 1·29 lakh pending collection at the end of the year.

The incidence of taxation per head of population works out to Rs. 1-12-12, the incidence under income tax alone being Rs. 1-5-0 as against chs. 14 cash 12 in 1118 and that under agricultural income tax being chs. 7 cash 12.

The Income Tax Commissioner had 78 appeal cases and 17 revision petitions for disposal of which 21 appeal cases and 8 revision petitions were disposed of during the year. Of the 330 appeals under Income Tax for disposal by the Deputy Commissioner, 153 were disposed of by him.

Appeals and Revision Petitions.

Under Agricultural Income Tax, the number of appeals on the files of the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner were 5 and 96 respectively. The appeals were filed towards the close of the year and only one case could be disposed of.

EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner. Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan, B. A., B. L.

Salt Revenue.

The supervision and control over the manufacture of salt in the factories in South Travancore and the administration of salt revenue in the State rest with the Excise Department.

Control.

Salt is a Government monopoly as in British India and one of the primary industrial concerns of the State. The expansion of the salt industry during the last few years has made the State self-sufficient. The Manufacture of salt in the factories is entrusted to licensees. In the case of the old factories, Government are entitled to get free of payment 60 per cent of the salt manufactured. This is called *melvaram* or Government's share of the produce. The remaining 40 per cent. is the share of the licensee and is called *kudivaram*. This latter quantity is also taken over by Government on payment of a fixed price called *kudivila*. This price was 7½ chs. per maund till 1092, when it was raised to 11¾ chs. to meet the increased cost of manufacture. In 1095, the *kudivila* was raised to 12½ chs. per maund to cover the additional expenditure incurred by the licensees for weighing salt before storage, which was necessitated by the passing of a new set of rules under the Salt Act, III of 1088. In 1107, the *kudivila* was raised to 17 chs. 13 cash (10 annas) per maund with a view to provide a fair margin of profit for the licensees of the old factories. This price, when spread over the whole quantity manufactured by the licensees and taken delivery of by Government, works out to 7 chs. 2 cash per maund. As regards the new factories, the licensees who have to deliver to Government a stipulated quantity of salt every year, are paid *kudivila* varying

System.

from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ annas per maund on the quantities so delivered. They have, however, themselves to construct and maintain the necessary works in the factories, whereas the Government do this in the old factories. Salt for consumption was sold by Government agencies in bankshalls, depots and factories except in the Devicolam Excise Division. In that Division, the consumers themselves are permitted to import the salt required by them from the adjoining British Districts on payment of duty at the *chowkeys*.

Home Salt.

There were 19 salt factories in the State all situated in South Travancore and they were all working under the modified excise system. The total extent of pan area available for the manufacture of salt was 592·54 acres as in 1118. Of this area, manufacture was carried on only in 561·54 acres against 560·85 acres in the previous year. The total quantity of salt manufactured in all the *alloms* together increased from 798,494 maunds in 1118 to 1,675,326 maunds in 1119. Including the excess found at the time of storage and sale, the out-put during the year was 1,749,954 maunds against 974,717 maunds in the previous year. The increase was due to the favourable season for salt manufacture as well as to the scraping of salt for eight months during the year instead of during the *Thai Pani* alone as was done in previous years. The average yield per acre increased from 1,737·93 maunds in 1118 to 3,116·35 maunds in 1119. The total quantity of salt borne in the accounts, including stock at the beginning of the year, was 4,786,360 maunds and 6 seers against 4,719,520 maunds and 2 seers in the previous year. A total quantity of 1,743,276 maunds was expended during the year leaving a balance of 3,043,084 maunds and 6 seers at the end of the year.

Export of Salt.

As in the previous year, part of the requirements of the Cochin State was supplied from the salt manufactured in this State. A quantity of 242,190 maunds of salt was exported for supply to the Cochin Government as against 64,900 maunds in 1118.

The quota system for the sale of salt in the factories and depots was temporarily suspended with effect from the 5th July 1944 (22nd Mithunam 1119). The rules for the issue of salt duty free for use in manufacture were also amended. Under the amended rules all those whose requirements are below 100 maunds of salt should pay an annual fee of B. Rs. 50 and execute a bond in the prescribed form with one approved surety. The bond is liable to renewal every financial year on payment of the above fee.

Sale of Salt.

The following statement compares the consumption of salt during the years 1118 and 1119 :—

Salt consumption.

Year.	Home salt (Maunds).	Tinnevelly salt (Maunds).	Total (Maunds).
1118 . .	1,532,584	3,367	1,535,951
1119 . .	1,561,351	1,354	1,562,705

Deducting 5,880 maunds of salt issued for industrial and manurial purposes the total consumption per head during the year was 21·03 pounds against 20·67 pounds in 1118.

The manufacture of bye-products like calcium sulphate was continued and a quantity of 172 tons and 9 cwts. of calcium sulphate was manufactured during the year. The research branch attached to the University conducted experiments for improving the quality of salt and for the manufacture of mixed salts from bitterns. As a result of the experiments it was found that the bitterns in the salt factory could be used for the purification of water. 9,088 gallons of bitterns were sent to the Willingdon Water Works, Trivandrum for this purpose.

Bye-products of Salt.

Excise Revenue.

Sources of Revenue.

The excise revenue is derived from the manufacture and sale of country liquor and from licenses for the sale of toddy, country and foreign liquors, from tobacco, opium and its derivatives and ganja.

Excise System.

The vend of arrack and toddy is conducted on the lines of what is known as the 'Independent Shop System' under which the privilege of vend is auctioned shop by shop by the Excise Commissioner and given to the highest bidder. The supply of arrack is made under the 'Contract Distillery System' under which a contractor manufactures and supplies arrack to the independent shop contractors throughout the State except in the Devicolam taluk. In the Devicolam taluk the right of manufacture and vend of arrack is farmed out to one contractor. In regard to toddy the independent shop system with its accompaniment of tree-tax is in operation throughout the State except in the Devicolam and Peermade taluks. Under this system the independent shop holder enjoys the privilege both of manufacture and vend of toddy in the shops for which he is granted license. He can draw toddy only from trees licensed to him for the purpose, on payment of the prescribed tree-tax. There is no manufacture or sale of toddy in the Devicolam and the Peermade taluks.

Abkari Contract.

The biennial contracts in respect of arrack and toddy shops which were entered into at the beginning of 1118 continued during 1119 without any change in the system. The contract taken by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals, Ltd., for the manufacture and supply of jaggery arrack to the independent shops for two years from the beginning of 1118 continued during 1119 also. The total number of toddy shops and arrack shops working during the year was 1,454 as in the previous year.

Arrack.

The arrack required for the State was manufactured by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals, Ltd., in their distillery at Nagercoil. Coco-brandy was manufactured at Vaikom by the Devicolam Distilleries, Ltd. The duty and the supply price of arrack was

B. Rs. 6-9-0 and B. Rs. 3-0-0 respectively per proof gallon till the 15th of Vrischikam 1119 when the duty price was enhanced to B. Rs. 7-0-0 and the supply price to B. Rs. 3-2-0 per proof gallon. The strength of the jaggery arrack and coco-brandy supplied to the licensees remained the same as in 1118, *viz.*, 25° U. P. and 35° U. P. respectively. The spirits manufactured were subjected to chemical examination every quarter and certified by the Industrial Chemist that they were free from poisonous or deleterious substances and quite fit for human consumption. The total number of arrack shops excluding the shops in the Devicolam taluk was 393 as in 1118.

Consumption of Arrack.

The quantity of arrack consumed during the year was 231,142·20 proof gallons of jaggery arrack and 4,259·91 proof gallons of coco-brandy as against 188,751·70 proof gallons of arrack and 3,792·89 proof gallons of coco-brandy in 1118. The increase is mainly due to the rise in the prices of agricultural produce and the large influx of money into the State as a result of the war. Effective preventive measures excluded possibilities for leakages and this was also partly responsible for the increase. The average incidence of vend rent per proof gallon for the whole State was Chs. 21 Ca. 13 as against Chs. 27 Ca. 12 in 1118. The incidence of taxation on country spirits per head of population was, Chs. 8 Ca. 10 as against Chs. 6 Ca. 12 in the previous year.

Toddy Revenue.

The number of toddy shops working during the year was 1,061 as in the previous year. The average area and population per shop were 6·55 sq miles and 5,660 inhabitants respectively.

Tree-Tax.

The rate of tree-tax remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, B. Rs. 2-1-0 per palmyra tree, B. Rs. 4-2-0 per cocoanut tree and B. Rs. 8-4-0 per *Choondappana* (Sago palm) tree per half year. The total amount of tree-tax collected rose from Rs. 5·95 lakhs in 1118 to Rs. 7·36 lakhs in 1119.

The number of trees licensed for tapping during the years 1118 and 1119 is given below :—

Trees tapped.

Class of trees.	Number licensed.	
	1118	1119
Cocoanut	91,970	119,747
Palmyra	24,978	37,314
Choondappana	32,509	40,969

Great difficulty was experienced by the contractors in commanding a sufficient number of tappers. But in spite of these adverse conditions the increase in the number of trees licensed was the result of continued insistence of the department on improving the tree-tax revenue coupled with the demand for toddy under existing conditions.

Foreign liquor.

The quantity of foreign liquor including all varieties imported into the State in 1119 was 3,626 gallons as against 9,343 gallons in the previous year. 32 permits were issued to persons other than licensed vendors for the import of foreign liquor. The liquor imported consisted mainly of spirits, wine, ale, beer, porter, etc. The Travancore Sugars and Chemicals, Ltd., manufactured a total quantity of 8,705·5 gallons of whisky, brandy and gin during the year under report.

System of sale of Opium and Ganja.

The independent shop system in regard to the vend of opium and ganja continued to be in force during the year. The contract for 1118 having terminated by the end of Karkatakam 1118 fresh contracts were entered into for 1119. But unlike in previous years the privilege of sale of opium and ganja was auctioned separately and separate licenses were granted. This system was introduced with a view to maintain separate accounts under opium and ganja revenue.

The issue price of opium was raised from B. Rs. 87 to B. Rs. 102 per seer and that of ganja was raised from B. Rs. 35 to B. Rs. 40 per seer with effect from the 22nd Meenam 1119.

Consumption of opium and ganja.

There were 133 opium shops and 133 ganja shops in 1119 against 131 opium and ganja shops in 1118. The quantities of opium and ganja issued for sale in 1119 were 1,985 seers 30·81 tolas and 5,423 seers 46·66 tolas respectively, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 2,007 seers 50 tolas and 5,935 seers 50 tolas respectively. The average consumption per head of population in 1119 was 0·026 tola of opium and 0·071 tola of ganja against 0·026 tola of opium and 0·076 tola of ganja in 1118.

Tobacco-System of supply and sale.

The tobacco revenue of the State is derived by the imposition of an import duty as well as by a system of control over sales by the issue of licenses for the wholesale and retail sale of tobacco. The wholesale and retail license system for the vend of tobacco including *beedi* and *beedi* tobacco was prevalent throughout the State during the year under report as in the previous years. An import duty of B. Rs. 200 per candy was levied for Jaffna tobacco during the year. The rate of import duty for Coimbatore and Tinnevelly tobacco was B. Rs. 120 per candy till the 20th Karkatakam 1119 when the duty was enhanced and fixed at B. Rs. 150 per candy.

A fee of B. Rs. 20 is charged on each license for the wholesale vend of tobacco. A fee of B. Rs. 5 is charged on a license for the retail vend of tobacco of the A class and a fee of B. Re. 1 is charged on each license for the retail vend of tobacco of the B class.

Tobacco consumption.

The consumption of duty paid tobacco in the State during the year under report was 16,302 candies as against 16,894 candies in the previous year. Leaving out a third of the population as non-chewers and children, the average consumption per head of population during the year was approximately 2·4 lbs. as against 2·5 lbs. in 1118.

Under the various Excise laws, 2,073 cases involving 2,242 persons were reported during 1119 against 1,609 cases involving 1,753 persons in 1118. The increase in the number of cases was due to the effective detection work turned out by the staff of the department. Including 81 cases involving 122 persons pending at the beginning of the year, 2,154 cases involving 2,364 persons were handled by the department during the year. Of these 2,044 cases involving 2,168 persons were charged before the magistracy, 50 cases involving 90 persons were disposed of departmentally and 60 cases involving 106 persons were pending investigation at the end of the year. Including 50 cases pending with the magistracy at the beginning of the year, 2,094 cases were tried by the magistracy during the year. Of these, 2,032 cases ended in conviction and 17 in acquittal while 45 cases were pending at the end of the year.

Excise Offences.

Customs Revenue.

Travancore's right to levy customs duty is governed by the Commercial Treaty of 1040 M. E. (1865 A. D.) called the Interportal Trade Convention. The main commodities of dutiable imports by land under the Convention are snuff, cigars, cigarettes, *beedies* and *beedi* leaves and tobacco. Imports through sea customs are mainly ale, beer and other liquors, wine, cement, chemicals and apparatus, iron, steel and other metals, textile manufactures, etc. But owing to the war there was practically no import through sea customs during the year.

Import Duty.

The total receipts under imports during 1119 were Rs. 8·02 lakhs against Rs. 9·13 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease is mainly due to the fall of B. Rs. 2·01 lakhs under *beedi* tobacco.

In regard to exports, the State is free to levy duty on any commodity. Under the Interportal Trade Convention, however, the rate of duty on tariff valuation shall not exceed 5 per cent. on all ordinary exports, 10 per cent. on timber and Rs. 15 a candy on pepper and arecanut. The most important of the articles on which export duty is levied are copra, coir, cocoanut oil,

Export Duty.

cocoanuts, tea, pepper, ginger, arecanuts, cardamom, rubber and hides.

The total export duty collected during the year was Rs. 46·18 lakhs against Rs. 35·71 lakhs in 1118. The export duty collected during the year is the highest so far on record. The various articles produced from the cocoanut palm, viz., copra, cocoanut, coir, cocoanut oil, *punnac* etc., yielded B. Rs. 16·21 lakhs or 35 per cent. of the total export duty collected during the year. The large increase under export duty is mainly due to the greater demand in British India and the greater purchasing power of the people outside.

The levy of an excise duty on matches having been given effect to by the Government of India in 1934, the Travancore State along with other Indian States agreed to levy a corresponding duty on matches manufactured in the State and to pay the proceeds thereof into a common pool along with the proceeds of the British Indian duty for ultimate distribution between British India on the one hand and the various States that have agreed to come into the arrangement on the other on the basis of population.

Duty on Matches.

During the first quarter of the year under review six match factories were working in the State. During the second quarter a new factory on cottage type basis was started. The seven factories were working throughout the year. Out of these seven factories four were manufacturing matches as cottage industries and one on an ordinary type basis. The remaining two factories were manufacturing splints and veneers only. Messrs. West Coast Chemicals and Industries, Ltd., who were running their ordinary type of match factory at Mudichal sold it to another company viz., the Vanjinad Matches and Industries Ltd., and the purchasers started the manufacture of matches on an ordinary type basis.

The total receipts under duty on matches during 1119, deducting refunds, amounted to Rs. 8·81 lakhs against Rs. 4·73 lakhs in 1118. The contribution from the Government of India during the year amounted to Rs. 5·14 lakhs against Rs. 4·23

lakhs in 1118. The excise duty on matches, deducting refunds, realised in this State during 1119 was Rs. 3·66 lakhs against Rs. 49,084 in 1118. This increase under excise duty on matches collected in the State was mainly due to the increase in the large scale manufacture of matches by the Vanjinad Matches and Industries, Ltd.

Sugar Control. The Sugar control scheme as laid down in the Sugar Control Order, 1117 continued to be in force during the year under report and the Excise Commissioner continued to function as Sugar Controller. Sugar control is being carried on generally as in British India. The control instituted on sugar under the Sugar Control Order, 1117 was extended during the year to all forms of refined sugar containing 90 per cent. of sucrose and also to sugar products under a revised order called the Sugar and Sugar Products Control Order, 1119, following a similar order passed in British India.

The Thuckalai Sugar Factory which is the only sugar refinery in the State and which was remaining closed from the 30th September 1942 for want of raw material, viz., palmyra jaggery, resumed working on the 27th May 1944.

The supply of sugar from North India was generally regular throughout the year and with the restarting of manufacture in the Thuckalai Sugar Factory, the sugar position in the State improved considerably. A total quantity of 85,958 bags of sugar was distributed during the year as against 47,360 bags in 1118.

Miscellaneous. The restrictions imposed on the export of tapioca, tapioca flour, jaggery, fish, bones of animals, sugar cane, laurel and *marotti* oil cakes and seeds, tender cocoanuts, all cattle including bulls, cows and buffaloes, all food grains specified in the Food Control Order, 1117, all machinery and other iron, steel or copper goods or material including scrap, gunny bags, banana flour, products of paddy or rice, straw, ragi or its products, tamarind including tamarind seeds and poultry including ducks, were continued during the year under report. In addition to this, Government also

imposed restrictions on the export of *Kodappana* or *Choondappana* pith or flour, eggs, coir yarn, cocoanut oil cakes, mango-wood and jack-wood planks and logs, fire-wood, fuel and charcoal, gingelly seeds and oil, rice husk, ashes and dung of all sorts, ground-nut oil, chillies and drugs.

The excise duty imposed on kerosene at the rate of 4 annas and 6 pies per Imperial Gallon continued to be in force during the year under report.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The following statements show the receipts and expenditure of the department for the years 1118 and 1119:—

Receipts.

Item.	1118.	1119.
	Rs.	Rs.
Salt .	27,26,786	26,94,727
Tobacco .	22,03,051	24,81,675
Abkari & Opium .	37,39,361	48,99,578
Customs .	65,21,142	68,70,049
Duty on Matches (after deducting refunds) .	4,73,335	8,80,896
Duty on kerosene .	3,888	40
Total .	1,56,69,563	1,78,26,965

Expenditure.

Item.	1118.	1119.
	Rs.	Rs.
Salt .	1,64,176	1,68,368
Excise .	4,82,603	6,38,707
Customs .	1,01,664	1,36,558
Total .	7,48,443	9,43,633

Forest Revenue.

Conservator. *Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkiteswara Aiyar, M. A.*

Forest Policy.

Government have laid it down as their definite policy that the denudation of forests and the wholesale registration and fragmentation of forest areas should be rigorously checked. The disafforestation of forest lands for the purpose of cultivation has thus been completely stopped. Swampy and grassy areas within forests will be granted for cultivation only on short term leases. Special attention is also being paid to the regeneration of the existing forests. With the fall of Burma, there has been a phenomenal rise in the demand for teak, blackwood and various kinds of softwood from Travancore, particularly for meeting the requirements of the Supply Department of the Government of India. Investigations have also been made into the possibility of utilising the softwoods of the State for industrial purposes within the State, with the result that a plywood factory has already been started in the State, and various varieties of softwoods are also being made use of for manufacture of matches, pencils, etc. While every attempt is being made to meet these demands to the fullest possible extent, systematic action is at the same time being taken to conserve judiciously the existing resources and to regenerate the available forests.

Extent of Forest Lands.

The area of reserved forests increased from 2,401 square miles 297 acres in 1118 to 2,401 square miles 369 acres in 1119 by the addition of 72 acres of forest lands as reserved forests. The area of non-reserved forest lands thereby decreased from 40 square miles and 445 acres in 1118 to 40 square miles and 373 acres in 1119. The area of proposed fuel and fodder reserves remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 404 acres. Eight proposed regular reserves and two fuel and fodder reserves were pending settlement at the close of the year. 145·06 miles of forest boundary and 1,021·5 acres of forest area were surveyed during the year against 195·75 miles and 85·85 acres in 1118.

The scheme for leasing out suitable swampy and grassy lands within reserved forests for cultivation of food crops was continued during the year. Including 329·47 acres leased out in 1119, 3,265·5 acres of forest land were cultivated during the year with paddy and tapioca.

Lease of Lands for Food Production.

Forest exploitation is regulated by working plans and working schemes so as to bring all important forests under systematic management to ensure continuity of treatment and orderly and economic working on an organised basis as well as to ensure forest regeneration in the interests of posterity. Out of a total area of 2,401 square miles and 369 acres there were sanctioned plans or schemes for an area of 1,087 square miles and 200 acres. No working plans or schemes are required for an area of 1,075 square miles and 498 acres and schemes have been taken up for 238 square miles and 311 acres.

Working Plans.

Including the 328 cases pending disposal at the end of the previous year, there were 1,424 cases of breach of forest laws for disposal during the year against 1,342 in 1118. Of this 212 cases were disposed of by the Magistracy, 784 were compounded and 22 were withdrawn, leaving 406 cases pending at the close of the year. Of the cases disposed of by the Magistracy, 208 ended in conviction and 4 in acquittal.

Forest Protection.

There were four cases of minor forest fires but practically no damage was caused.

Grazing in the Government forests is regulated by special rules issued in that behalf. An extent of 2,161 square miles and 281 acres of reserve was thrown open to the grazing of all animals. A sum of Rs. 15,274 was realised as the revenue for grazing during the year.

Regulation of Grazing.

Natural regeneration of valuable timber species was on the whole satisfactory. The area under teak plantations at the commencement of the year was 18,295 acres and an area of 684 acres was planted during the year. The average cost of planting per acre

Sylviculture.

was Rs. 2·3 against Rs. 1·7 in the previous year. The planting was done by taungya lessees, the department undertaking the opening of nurseries and the supply of plants. The receipts from teak plantations by the sale of logs, saplings, etc., rose from Rs. 90,619 in 1118 to Rs. 2,77,492 in 1119. Thinning operations were carried out in 2,750 acres as against 1,547 acres in 1118. Besides this, mechanical thinning was carried out over a total area of 555 acres. Pests made their appearance in a few plantations and did some damage. The Forest Entomologist collected specimens of these pests and conducted experiments to find out ways and means for their control.

The following statement shows the area under principal plantations other than teak :—

Name of plantation.	Area in acres.			
	At the beginning of the year.	Added during the year.	Excluded during the year.	At the end of the year.
Rubber	157·47	..	..	157·47
Elavu	84·10	..	..	84·10
Red Gum	88·75	..	..	88·75
Cashewnut	513·23	25·25	..	538·48
Casuarina	108·00	..	..	108·00

Experiments.

The experimental cultivation of Pyrethrum in one acre at Peermade showed that Pyrethrum could be cultivated on a large scale in the State. The grass lands in Pampadanshola reserve at an elevation of about 6,000 feet were considered as the most suitable place for growing Pyrethrum and a nursery of 2 acres was opened at that place. The seedlings obtained therefrom were transplanted over an area of 25 acres during the year. The experimental cultivation of Cinchona progressed satisfactorily during the year. Experimental sowing done in the previous year with Pithecolobium dulce was found to be a failure and the areas where Pithecolobium failed were planted with either cashew or

jack. The cultivation of lac and Mahogany progressed successfully during the year.

Exploitation of Timber.

As in the past, the extraction of timber from the forest was entrusted mostly to contract agencies except in the High Ranges where timbers were extracted under the *mellabhom* system. Motor lorries and carts along land routes and rafts along water-ways were employed for the transport of forest produce. Elephants were employed for dragging timber from areas away from road sides or river banks. The quantity of timber extracted and removed from forests during the year was 1,652,616 c. ft. Of the timber extracted royalties formed 431,794 c. ft., and junglewood 1,220,822 c. ft. Inclusive of the stock at the commencement of the year, the quantity of timber available for disposal was 2,821,414 c. ft., of which 1,428,425 c. ft., made up of 589,314 c. ft., of royalties and 839,111 c. ft. of junglewood were disposed of during the year. The balance in stock at the end of the year consisted of 565,176 c. ft. of royalties and 827,813 c. ft. of junglewood. The receipts on account of royalties and junglewood amounted to Rs. 46·15 lakhs against Rs. 27·53 lakhs in 1118.

Minor Forest Produce.

Firewood, charcoal, cardamoms, sandal, bamboos and ivory are among the most important items of minor forest produce. The receipts from the disposal of minor forest produce during the year amounted to Rs. 3·36 lakhs against Rs. 2·49 lakhs in the previous year. Besides these, articles such as reeds, rattans, honey, wax, rubber etc., were also sources of revenue from the forests.

Elephants.

The operations for the capture of elephants were successful during the year under report. There were 20 elephants (9 tuskers and 11 cows) in the possession of the department at the beginning of the year. Ten elephants (5 tuskers and 5 cows) were captured during the year and one tusker was received from the Government Zoo. Three tuskers and two cows were sold in auction and one tusker was transferred to His Highness the Maharaja's Garage and Stables. Two tuskers died during the year. There

were thus 23 elephants (9 tuskers and 14 cows) in the possession of the department at the close of the year.

Ascu Treatment.

In the Ascu treating plants at Shencottah and Pallom 22,838 c. ft. of poles and cross arms and 1,285 c. ft. of other timber were treated with Ascu during the year. The receipts from the Ascu treatment of timber amounted to Rs. 23,729 against Rs. 18,288 in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The net receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 51·12 lakhs against Rs. 31·80 lakhs in the previous year. The increase is due to the high prices obtained for all classes of timber and to the supply of a large quantity of timber to the Defence Department of the Government of India. The expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 14·34 lakhs.

Game Department.

Game Warden. *Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.*

In order to encourage the preservation of wild life in the State and to check its indiscriminate destruction, the Government appointed a Game Warden in 1933 and measures are being taken for creating game reserves in suitable places. A Game Sanctuary was established at Nellikampatty Isthumus in the Periyar Lake. A Game Association was also organised at Peermade with a view to regulate hunting, to prevent poaching and other forest offences and to introduce new and varied species of animals and birds from other countries. There are various animals and birds in the Sanctuary of which mention may be made of the elephant, the Indian bison or Gaur, the Sambur, the mouse deer, the ibex, the tiger, the panther and the bear.

The Game Sanctuary received the special attention of the department during the year. The Game Department and the Game Association were very vigilant in the preservation of wild life and in the prevention of poaching. The various species of wild animals and birds increased considerably in number during the year. Rare specimens of animals and birds were reared successfully in the Edapalayam nursery.

As in the previous years many distinguished persons visited the Sanctuary during the year.

Stamps.

The administrative control of the Stamps Department is vested in the Financial Secretary to Government who is ex-officio Superintendent of Stamps. The Stamp Manufactory is under the immediate charge of a Superintendent and the Central Stamp Depot is under the Divisional Treasury Officer, Trivandrum, who is the officer in charge of the Depot. Stamps are printed at the manufactory and sent over to the depot wherefrom they are issued to the various treasuries of the State.

General.

The volume of stamp printing work done during 1117, 1118 and 1119 is shown in the subjoined statement:—

Manufacture of Stamps.

Sl. No.	Description.	Number printed during		
		1117.	1118.	1119.
1	General Stamps	440,505	949,046	1,400,207
2	One anna receipt stamps	357,000	..	1,080,000
3	Foreign Bill stamps	11,616	2,160	..
4	Private documents embossed	17,693	10,580	14,800
5	Medical revenue stamps	82,600	165,200	..
6	Court fee stamp papers	96,312	65,240	292,348
7	Court fee labels	1,453,000	1,757,000	2,107,350
8	Copying papers (ordinary)	1,054,000	1,052,314	1,082,023
9	Copying papers (service)	81,000	68,000	39,500
10	Anchal stamps	6,441,120	6,524,000	19,057,416
11	Anchal covers	4,062,132	3,886,140	5,181,580
12	Anchal cards	3,190,416	4,621,920	4,723,200
13	Service anchal stamps and cards	3,142,496	2,913,520	6,468,328
14	Special adhesive stamps	..	..	..
15	Vendors agreement	..	..	300
16	Share transfer stamps	27,840	25,440	79,680
	Total	20,457,730	22,040,560	41,526,732

The value of stamps in stock on the first day of the year was Rs. 61·23 lakhs and the value of stamps manufactured in 1119 was Rs. 58·31 lakhs. Stamps to the value of Rs. 46·03 lakhs

were issued during the year from the Central Stamp Depot. The value of stamps converted into 'Service' and 'Medical Revenue' stamps amounted to Rs. 4·55 lakhs. Stamps to the value of Rs. 68·96 lakhs were in stock at the close of the year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years:—

Particulars.	1117.	1118.	1119.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Receipts	24,02,622	36,20,862	36,47,335
Deduct—Refunds	67,351	72,373	85,088
Net Receipts	23,35,271	35,48,489	35,62,247
Expenditure	1,17,991	1,38,560	1,88,700
Deduct—Share debitable to			
(i) Anchal Department	40,126	54,907	62,209
(ii) Medical Department	78	26	32
Net Expenditure	77,787	83,627	1,26,459

CHAPTER VI.

JUSTICE AND CRIME.

Chief Justice, High Court.	*Mr. T. M. Krishnaswami Aiyar, B. A., B. L.*
Judge, High Court.	*Mr. G. D. Nokes, LL. D., Barrister-at-Law.*
" "	*Mr. K. Sankarasubha Aiyar, B. A., B. L.*
" "	*Mr. H. Ramakrishna Aiyar, B. A., B. L. (from 1-1-1119 to 31-2-1119.)*
" "	*Mr. C. Madhavan Pillai, B. A., B. L.*
" "	*Mr. K. C. Abraham, B. A., B. L.*
" "	*Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai, B. A., B. L.*
" "	*Mr. S. I. Sathyanesan, M. A., B. L. (Took charge on 30-12-1119.)*

Judicial System.

The judicial administration of the State rests with the High Court except in the matter of offences committed by European British subjects for which there is special procedure prescribed by Law. The High Court is the highest civil and criminal court in the land and has the power of adjudication over suits of the highest value and criminal cases of the most serious nature. Decisions in some important civil and criminal cases, such as decrees in suits to the value of five thousand rupees and above and capital and life sentences, are subject to confirmation by the Ruler, application for which is transmitted through the Dewan, such confirmation being a matter of course. Until 1894,

there was a "Royal Court of Final Appeal" corresponding, more or less, to the judicial committee of the Privy Council in England. This Court has since been abolished, but the functions of such a committee are to some extent exercised by a Full Bench of the High Court which, when so acting, passes judgments in the form of advice to the Ruler. Below the High Court are the District and Sessions Courts and below them are the courts of the Munsiffs and the Village Panchayat Courts for the trial of civil cases and the courts of the Magistrates including benches of honorary magistrates for the trial of criminal cases. Munsiffs' Courts and Village Panchayat Courts have only original jurisdiction; and generally speaking, the jurisdiction of the Munsiff extends up to suits to the value of two thousand rupees, and that of the Village Panchayat Court up to fifty rupees. Suits tried by the Village Panchayat Courts are of a small cause nature and the decisions are not subject to appeal, although the District Courts have the power to revise them to a limited extent. Munsiffs also try some classes of suits as small cause suits, the decisions being subject only to revision by the High Court. The decisions of the Munsiffs in other suits are subject to regular appeals which lie either to the High Court or to the District Court according as the value of the suit is above one thousand rupees or not. For the administration of criminal justice, there are below the Sessions Courts, magistrates of three classes, some of whom are honorary. The chief magistrate of a district is the District Magistrate who is a magistrate of the first class and under him are other magistrates of the first class and those of the second and third classes. The latter have only original jurisdiction while magistrates of the first class, including District Magistrates, have original as well as appellate jurisdiction. The appellate authority over magistrates of the second and third classes is the District Magistrate and, if specially authorised, any other First Class Magistrate. The appellate authority over First Class Magistrates, including the District Magistrates, is the Sessions Court. District and certain First Class Magistrates are Land Revenue Officers as well but except in a few cases where the Tahsildars are empowered to exercise magisterial functions in their respective taluks, all magistrates of the second or

third class and some of the First Class Magistrates are magistrates exclusively and have no revenue functions. The stipendiary magistrates are mostly graduates-in-law. The criminal judiciary in the State in respect of offences committed by European British subjects consists of Special Magistrates and a special Appellate Judge appointed under Sign Manual by virtue of certain Proclamations. Special Magistrates exercise original jurisdiction: and the Special Appellate Judge exercises appellate and revisional powers over them. None of them can, however, award any punishment higher than imprisonment extending up to three months or fine up to one thousand rupees or both. If, in the opinion of the Special Magistrate taking cognisance of a case, the offence is one that cannot be tried by him or be adequately punished by him, he has to commit the offender for trial to the High Court of Madras.

Recruitment.

The entire judiciary is recruited from the ranks of duly qualified members of the service or the bar. Judges of the High Court are appointed by His Highness the Maharaja and they are ordinarily selected from among the District Judges or leading members of the bar. District Judges are appointed by Government in consultation with the High Court. Munsiffs are likewise appointed by Government on the recommendation of the High Court. District Judges and Munsiffs are removable for misconduct only after a formal enquiry by a commission duly appointed by the High Court, with the sanction of His Highness the Maharaja. The Judges and Munsiffs are, without exception, graduates-in-law or barristers-at-law. The courts are free from interference on the part of the executive authorities. Suits against Government are a common feature: and they have always regarded the decisions as binding on them, the courts being authorised by law to issue execution against Government.

Security of Service.

Criminal Justice.

Tribunals.

There were 74 criminal courts during the year under report comprising the High Court, 7 Sessions courts, 8 Additional Sessions courts, 3 District Magistrates' courts, 18 First Class Magistrates' courts, 26 Second

Class Magistrates' courts, 5 First Class Bench Magistrates' courts and 6 Second Class Bench Magistrates' courts.

Crimes.

Offences.

The total number of offences reported during the year was 21,476 against 21,638 in 1118 and the number of cases returned as true was 21,217 against 21,161 in the previous year. The percentage of offences under the Penal Code to the total number of offences fell from 50·80 in 1118 to 43·02, while that of offences under special and local laws rose from 49·20 in 1118 to 56·98 in 1119. The total number of cases rejected *in limine* fell from 376 in 1118 to 257 and those struck off the rolls as false, frivolous or vexatious also fell from 107 in 1118 to 2 in 1119. There was a rise in the percentage of true to reported cases, which was 98·79 in 1119 against 97·79 in the previous year.

Out of 45,548 persons brought to trial during the year 13,340 or 29·29 per cent. were convicted against 27·66 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of persons convicted to the total population of the State was 0·22 against 0·18 in 1118.

Women Offenders.

During the year under report 4,712 women were involved in the cases for disposal and they formed 7·96 per cent. of the total number of accused persons, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 4,382 and 8·38 respectively. The number of women convicted during the year was 1,459 or 30·96 per cent. of the total number of women involved as against 586 or 13·37 per cent. in 1118.

Juvenile Offenders.

59 juvenile offenders (all boys) were brought to trial during the year and 37 of them were convicted.

Public Servants.

Five public servants were prosecuted in 1119 against four in 1118 and one of them was convicted as against none in the previous year.

Magistrates' Courts.

Original Work.

The total number of cases for disposal in the Magistrates' courts rose from 24,386 in 1118 to 28,315 in 1119 and the number of persons involved in criminal cases also rose from 52,299 in 1118 to 58,704 in 1119. Of these, 23,219 cases involving 44,430 persons were disposed of during the year leaving 5,096 cases involving 14,274 persons pending at the end of the year.

Bench Magistrates' Courts.

The number of cases for disposal in the Bench Magistrates' courts rose from 5,152 affecting 5,633 persons in 1118 to 7,253 affecting 8,232 persons in 1119. Of these 6,611 cases affecting 7,509 persons were disposed of against 4,712 cases affecting 5,076 persons in 1118. The average duration of disposal of a case from the beginning of the trial was 18 days against 22 days in 1118.

Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts.

In the Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts there were 21,062 cases affecting 50,472 persons for disposal against 19,234 cases affecting 46,676 persons in the previous year. Of these, 16,608 cases affecting 36,921 persons were disposed of during the year. The average duration of a case from the commencement of the enquiry to the close of the trial was 64 days in respect of preliminary enquiries and 30 days for trials against 57 days and 27 days respectively in the previous year.

Appellate Work.

The number of appeals for disposal and of those disposed of in the 10 Magistrates' courts exercising appellate jurisdiction was 427 and 292 respectively, the corresponding figures for 1118 being 446 and 312. The average duration of an appeal rose from 35 days in 1118 to 41 days in 1119. The following statement shows the results of appeals disposed of in 1118 and 1119 :—

Results.	1118		1119.	
	No.	Percentage.	No.	Percentage.
Finding and sentence confirmed	122	39·10	139	47·60
Conviction altered but sentence confirmed	1	0·32	Nil.	Nil.
Conviction upheld but sentence reduced	57	18·27	58	19·86
Conviction and sentence altered	5	1·60	53	18·15
Conviction quashed and acquittal ordered	94	30·13	28	9·59
Conviction quashed and retrial ordered	12	3·85	10	3·43
Otherwise disposed	21	6·73	4	1·37
Total.	312	100·00	292	100·00

Revisional Work.

Three applications for revision under Section 362 of the Criminal Procedure Code were filed during the year. Including one left pending at the end of the previous year there were four such applications for disposal during the year and all of them were disposed of. 2,465 calendars were received during the year in addition to the 60 calendars left pending at the end of the previous year. Of these 2,452 calendars were disposed of leaving a balance of 73 at the end of the year.

Sessions Courts.

Original Work.

The total number of cases for disposal in the Sessions courts during the year was 218 involving 521 persons of which 206 cases involving 501 persons were disposed of. The average period taken for the disposal of a sessions case from the date of receipt of records was 27 days against 18 days in 1118, while the time from the commencement to the close of the trial was 11 days against 9 days in the previous year. The number of persons convicted during the year by the Sessions courts was 213 and formed 40·88 per cent. of the total number of persons involved.

The number of appeals for disposal in the Sessions courts rose from 277 in 1118 to 375 in 1119 and the number disposed of also rose from 231 to 260. The average duration of an appeal was 81 days against 47 days in 1118. In 43·46 per cent. of the appeals disposed of, the findings and sentences of the superior magistrates were confirmed; in 5·39 per cent. of cases the findings and sentences were altered and a re-trial was ordered in 6·15 per cent. of the cases.

Appellate Work.

High Court.

There were 27 referred trials involving 33 persons for disposal during the year. Of these, 25 cases involving 30 persons were disposed of. Death sentence was confirmed in the case of 3 persons and commuted to life imprisonment in the case of one person; rigorous imprisonment was confirmed in the case of 11 persons; conviction altered to one of less heinous offence and lighter punishment awarded in the case of 4 persons and conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered in the case of 7 persons. 13 persons at referred trials were defended at the cost of Government on account of their poverty as against 39 in the previous year. The average duration of a referred trial fell from 173 days in 1118 to 93 days in 1119.

Appellate Work.

The number of appeals for disposal including the arrears of the previous year was 283 against 371 in 1118 and the number disposed of was 198 against 299 in the previous year. The average duration of an appeal fell from 285 days in 1118 to 164 days in 1119. The number of appeals defended at the cost of Government was 43 against 77 in the previous year. The statement below shows the results of appeals disposed of in 1118 and 1119:—

Appeals.

			1118.		1119.	
			No.	Percentage.	No.	Percentage.
Appeals against conviction.	Confirmed.	(a) Abated by death of appellant	3	1·00	...	...
		(b) Interference declined	120	40·14	71	35·86
	Modified.	(c) Conviction altered and sentence confirmed	...	...	1	0·51
		(d) Sentence altered with or without altering conviction	54	18·06	25	12·63
		(e) Appeal rejected but sentence enhanced in revision or appeal by Government	8	2·67	4	2·02
	Reversed.	(f) Conviction quashed and acquittal ordered	59	19·74	75	37·87
		(g) Conviction quashed and re-trial ordered.	...	...	1	0·51
		(h) Royal clemency exercised	...	...	...	...
		(i) Included in the list of long pending cases	...	...	...	...
Appeals against acquittal.		1. Interference declined	35	11·70	5	2·53
		2. Acquittal set aside and conviction entered	4	1·35	13	6·56
		3. Acquittal set aside and re-trial ordered	6	2·00	...	...
		4. Abated by death of respondent	2	0·67	...	...
		5. Otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...
		6. Sentence enhanced	8	2·67	3	1·51

Miscellaneous.

The total number of cases for revision was 734 of which 512 were disposed of during the year. The percentages of cases in which the sentence or order was confirmed, modified and quashed were 63·52, 7·55 and 28·93 respectively against 72·36, 6·72 and 20·92 respectively in the previous year.

The total number of calendars and appeal statements for disposal during the year was 588 of which 385 calendars were disposed of leaving a balance of 203 cases at the end of the year. 38 applications for transfer of cases from one court to another were filed during the year. Of these, 36 were disposed of, nine being in favour of the applicants. The number of miscellaneous petitions for bail rose from 169 in 1118 to 226 and all of them were allowed.

The High Court inspected 19 criminal courts during the year and all these were surprise inspections.

Extradition.

The number of persons extradited to British India and the Cochin State at the instance of the Resident for the Madras States was 10 and the number of persons surrendered to this State from British India and the Cochin State was 37.

Civil Justice

Number of Civil Courts.

The number of courts exercising civil jurisdiction was 84 as in the previous year, comprising the High Court, 7 District Courts, 4 Second Judges' Courts, 4 Temporary Second Judges' Courts, 31 District Munsiffs' Courts, 4 Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts, 5 Temporary Munsiffs' Courts, 6 Additional Temporary Munsiffs' Courts and 22 Village Panchayat Courts.

The volume of litigation in the years 1118 and 1119 is shown in the following statement :—

Civil Litigation.

Name of Court.	Original Litigation.						Appeals (including 1st and 2nd appeals, cross objections and appeals from orders).	
	1118			1119			1118	1119
	O. S.	S.C. S.	Total.	O. S.	S.C. S.	Total.		
Village Panchayat Courts	..	4,751	4,751	..	3,035	3,035	..	..
Munsiffs' Courts	33,036	12,380	45,416	29,912	8,837	38,749	..	..
District Courts	922	110	1,032	1,070	229	1,299	4,450	4,822
High Court	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,942	2,016
Total	33,958	17,241	51,199	30,982	12,101	43,083	6,392	6,838

The total volume of litigation during the year under report has fallen from that of the previous year by 7,670 suits or 13·32 per cent. The file of the original suits including small causes shows a fall by 8,116 suits or 15·85 per cent. while the file of appeal suits shows a rise by 446 suits or 6·98 per cent.

The aggregate value of the suits filed during the year was Rs 1·52 crore as against Rs 1·24 crore in the previous year, the average value of a suit being Rs 352 as against Rs 242 in 1118.

Original Litigation.

Village Panchayat Courts.

The number of suits for disposal by the Village Panchayat Courts fell from 6,697 in 1118 to 4,801 in 1119 and the number disposed of also fell from 5,333 in 1118 to 3,890, leaving a balance of 911 cases at the close of the year as against 1,364 at the close of the previous year. The average duration of a contested suit was 203 days and of an uncontested suit 50 days against 218 days and 70 days respectively in the previous year.

Munsiff's' Courts.

The number of suits for disposal in the Munsiffs' Courts fell from 79,683 in 1118 to 79,234 in 1119 and the number of disposals also fell from 42,918 to 41,314. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 14,180 were decreed in favour of the plaintiffs against 11,688 in 1118. The average duration of contested ordinary suits and uncontested suits fell from 710 days and 144 days in 1118 to 620 days and 140 days respectively in 1119. There were 37,920 suits pending at the end of 1119 of which 472 were suits in which proceedings were stayed under the provisions of the Soldiers' Litigation Act.

District Courts.

The number of suits for disposal in the District Courts rose from 3,022 in 1118 to 3,403 in 1119 of which 1,241 or 36·47 per cent. were disposed of against 1,068 or 35·34 per cent. in the previous year. The number of contested original suits disposed of formed 66·29 per cent. of the total disposal of original suits against 68·82 per cent. in 1118. The number of references received under the Land Acquisition Act was 118 against 91 in the previous year.

During the year under report the High Court began to exercise original jurisdiction consequent on the enactment of the High Court (Amendment) Act, IV of 1119.

High Court. In exercise of the powers vested in the High Court under this Act, 4 suits were withdrawn from the subordinate courts for trial in the High Court. Three of these suits were disposed of leaving one case pending at the end of the year.

Execution of Decrees. A comparative statement of the number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal, the number disposed of and the number pending at the close of the year is given below:—

Name of Court.	No. for disposal.		No disposed of		Balance pending at the close of the year.	
	1118	1119	1118	1119	1118	1119
Village Panchayat Courts	6,712	4,946	5,955	4,409	757	537
Munsiffs' Courts	114,925	101,552	77,004	67,098	37,921	34,451
District Courts	4,599	4,453	2,235	2,299	2,364	2,154
Total	126,236	110,951	85,194	73,806	41,042	37,145

The percentage of petitions in which full satisfaction was obtained to the total disposal was 17·54 and that of petitions in which partial satisfaction was obtained was 12·13 against 14·30 and 13·75 respectively in the previous year. The number of petitions found wholly infructuous was 47,842 or 64·82 per cent. of the total disposal against 57,114 or 67·04 per cent. in the previous year.

The number of decrees received for execution in Travancore courts from the Cochin State was 5 against 8 in 1118 and the number received from British Indian courts was 7 against 24 in the previous year. Decrees in 6 cases were sent to Cochin courts for execution and in 2 cases to British Indian courts against 9 and 3 respectively in 1118.

The number of petitions for disposal under the Debt Relief Act was 7,131 of which 2,764 were disposed of.

Petitions under the Debt Relief Act.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

The number of appeals (inclusive of cross objections and miscellaneous appeals) for disposal rose from 7,731 in 1118 to 8,352 in 1119 and the number disposed of was 4,926 against 4,360 in the previous year. The average duration of regular appeals, contested and uncontested was 232 days and 107 days respectively against 293 days and 153 days respectively in 1118.

District Courts.

The total pendency of regular appeals in the District Courts at the close of the year was 2,598 out of which 5 were of more than 5 years' duration, 57 between 2 and 5 years and the rest of less than 2 years' duration. Proceedings in 15 appeals were stayed under the provisions of the Soldiers' Litigation Act.

Pendency of Appeals.

The number of appeals for disposal fell from 4,247 in 1118 to 4,161 in 1119 and the number disposed of also fell from 1,602 in 1118 to 1,504 in 1119. The percentage of the number of appeals disposed of to the number for disposal was 36·15 against 37·72 in 1118. The number of appeals disposed of on the merits rose from 1,411 in 1118 to 1,437 in 1119. Out of the total disposals 84 first appeals, 14 second appeals and 20 miscellaneous cases were heard and disposed of by a Full Bench of three Judges.

High Court.

The number of cross objections and miscellaneous appeals for disposal was 433 and 674 respectively, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 351 and 658. One hundred and thirty one cross objections and 263 miscellaneous appeals were disposed of during the year against 99 and 314 respectively in the previous year. There were 103 applications for review of judgments against 83 in the previous year and 26 out of the 103 applications were disposed of during the year.

There were 3 Full Bench sittings of five judges, 68 Full Bench sittings of three judges, 409 Division Bench sittings, 114 single sittings and 16 Departmental Full Bench sittings during the year.

Quality of work of the Courts.

The percentage of appeals from decrees of Munsiffs to the number of contested original suits disposed of by them fell from 29·54 in 1118 to 24·32 in 1119. The percentage of appeals against decrees passed by District judges and Second judges in such suits fell from 39·59 in 1118 to 29·86 in 1119, while the percentage of appeals against the appellate decrees of District and Second judges rose from 19·93 to 21·91. There was a slight fall in the percentage of confirmation and reversal of Munsiffs' decrees from 56·85 and 33·49 respectively in 1118 to 56·50 and 32·29 in 1119, while there was a rise in the percentage of modifications of Munsiffs' decrees from 9·66 in 1118 to 11·21 in 1119. With regard to the original work of the District and Second judges, the percentage of confirmation rose from 55·05 in 1118 to 57·17, while that of modification and reversal fell from 20·58 and 24·37 in 1118 to 20·21 and 22·62 respectively in 1119. With respect to the appellate work of the District and Second judges, the percentage of confirmation rose from 64·21 in 1118 to 69·56, while that of modification and reversal fell from 10·04 and 25·75 in 1118 to 7·71 and 22·73 respectively in 1119. Of the decrees of Munsiffs modified and reversed by District and Second judges, the High Court in second appeals restored the decisions in 53 cases as against 55 in the previous year. In 508 appeals the suits were remanded to the Munsiffs' courts by the District and Second judges for trial and decision *de novo* and in 3 appeals revised findings were called for from the Munsiffs' courts.

Government suits and appeals.

The number of suits in the District Courts to which Government was a party was 532 against 545 in 1118 and the number of appeals in the High Court was 270 against 266 in 1118. The disposals in the District Courts and High Court were 155 and 71 respectively against 181 and 61 in the previous year. Of the total disposal 63·87 per cent. of the suits in the District Courts and 56·34 per cent. of the appeals were decreed in favour of Government.

CHAPTER VII.

THE LEGISLATURE.

A brief account of the constitution and powers of the State legislature has been given in Chapter III. The Second Sri Mulam Assembly and the Second Sri Chitra State Council constituted under Act II of 1108 and composed of members returned at the general election held in Medom 1112 were dissolved in Kumbhom 1119. The life of the Second Assembly and the Second Council had been extended for three years, one year at a time.

Second Assembly and the Second Council.

A general election was held in Mithunam 1119, and the prominent features of the election are detailed below. The total number of electors for the Sri Mulam Assembly according to the final electoral roll was 500,583 which forms 16·9 per cent of the adult population. Of the total number, 331,374 electors were men and 169,209 women. Of the 17 general constituencies and 5 special constituencies scheduled to return 43 and 5 members respectively, no poll was necessary in respect of 2 general seats and 5 reserved seats and also for 1 special constituency (Planters). The percentage of the number polled to the total strength of electors is 46·9. Taking the percentage of the voters who polled to the total voting strength for each constituency, the highest percentage was in the Edavaga constituency—97·2, followed by the Municipal Councils Constituency—95·8, and then the special constituencies, the percentage varying from 84 to 88. In the general constituencies the highest percentage, *viz.*, 70·8 was polled in the Muvattupuzha *cum* Devicolam and the lowest, *viz.*, 23·9 was polled in the Neyyattinkara *cum* Trivandrum constituency.

The General Election— Sri Mulam Assembly.

For the Sri Chitra State Council, the total number of electors was 35,230 or 1·8 per cent of the population of the State above the 30 years age-limit. Of these, 29,180 were men and 6,050 women. Of the 10 general and 6 special constituencies scheduled to return 16 and 6 members respectively, no poll was necessary in respect of 1 general seat and 1 reserved seat and also for 3 special constituencies (Jenmies, Planters and Commerce and Industry). The percentage of the number polled to the total strength of electors is 60·5. In all the general constituencies except in the Vaikom, Kottayam and Changanacherry *cum* Peermade constituency more than 50 per cent of the voters polled, the percentage polled in the latter constituency being 46·5.

The General Election—Sri Chitra State Council.

The first meeting of the Assembly during the year was held in Dhanu 1119 (January 1944). The Assembly sat for 2 days of which the first day was devoted for official business and the second day for non-official business. The first meeting of the Council during the year was also in Dhanu 1119 (January 1944). The Council sat for 2 days, one day for the transaction of official business and the other for non-official business. Since the Second Assembly and the Second Council were dissolved with effect from the 18th Kumbhom 1119 (1st March 1944), the subsequent meetings of the legislature could be held only late in the year (*i. e.*, towards the end of Karkatakam 1119) after the general elections were over. The first meeting of the newly constituted Third Assembly was held on the 12th Karkatakam 1119 (27th July 1944) and of the new Council on the 13th Karkatakam 1119 (28th July 1944). A joint sitting of the two Houses was held on the 30th Karkatakam 1119 (14th August 1944) for the presentation of the Budget for 1120.

Meetings.

Twenty-three Acts and five Proclamations were enacted during the year. Of these 28 enactments, 7 Acts were passed through the legislature, and the rest were promulgated direct by His Highness the Maharaja. These latter enactments related mostly to war emergency measures on the lines of British Indian enactments.

Enactments.

A motion for the continuance of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Bill was passed by the Council at its meeting held on the 29th Dhanu 1119 (13th January 1944).

Business transacted by the Legislature.

Forty-four questions were answered in the Assembly and five in the Council during the year. Demands for supplementary grants, totalling Rs. 4,47,365 in the Budget for 1119 were voted by both the Houses during the year. The Budget for 1120 M. E. was presented at the joint sitting of the Assembly and the Council held on the 30th Karkatakam 1119 (14th August 1944). One resolution and two adjournment motions were moved in the Assembly and one adjournment motion was moved in the Council.

A condolence motion on the demise of His Highness the late Maharaja of Cochin was passed by the Assembly at its meeting held on the 26th Dhanu 1119 (10th January 1944). A condolence motion on the demise of the First Prince (Avittam Tirunal) was passed at the joint sitting of both the Houses held on the 30th Karkatakam 1119 (14th August 1944).

CHAPTER VIII.

PROTECTION.

Police.

Inspector-General of Police. *Rajyasevapravina Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy. (Till the 26th Kanni 1119)*

Mr. V. Sivasankara Pillai, B. A., B. L. (From the 27th Kanni 1119 till the 28th Makaram 1119.)

Mr. S. Parthasarathi Aiyangar, B. A., M. L., (From the 29th Makaram 1119 till the end of the year.)

Strength of the Police Force—Recruitment and Discipline.

The sanctioned strength of the permanent police force on the last day of the year 1119 was 2,691 officers and men as against 2,673 on the last day of the previous year. The increase was due to the addition of 4 Inspectors, 4 Head Constables and 10 Constables sanctioned during the year. There was one member of the permanent force to every 2·85 square miles of the area of the State and to every 2,256 of its population. The strength of the temporary force was enhanced from 1,049 in 1118 to 1,508 in 1119, consisting of 2 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 11 Inspectors, 20 Sub Inspectors, 100 Head Constables and 1,375 Constables. This large increase was necessitated by the additional work in connection with Rice Escort Duty. The standard of efficiency of the force was high and discipline was well maintained.

During the year the Maharaja's Police Medal for gallantry was awarded posthumously to Mr. P. M. Koshi, Inspector of Police, who lost his life while in the discharge of his official duties. The decoration of the Travancore Police Medal for distinguished service was conferred on Mr. P. Krishna Pillai, Deputy Inspector General of Police and on Messrs N. S. Sankaranarayana Aiyar, K. Madhavan Pillai, P. R. Subramonia Aiyar and V. Narayana Pillai, Inspectors of Police. One Constable was given special promotion for exceptionally good work. A sum of Rs. 943-14-0 was spent on rewards.

Rewards.

The health of the force was very satisfactory, the percentage of admission into hospitals and that of men absent on duty daily on account of illness being only 8·7 and 0·44 respectively. All officers and men in the permanent force were literate and of these 35.9 per cent were literate in English. In the Recruits School at Trivandrum 212 men completed their training during the year leaving 927 recruits for further training at the end of the year. In the departmental tests held during the year for promotion to the rank of Head Constables, 4 out of 32 candidates who sat for the examination were declared successful.

Health, Education and Training.

There was a fall in the number of grave crimes reported during the year, as may be seen from the statement given below:—

Crimes.

	1118	1119
Murder	119	104
Culpable homicide	6	15
Dacoity	22	19
Robbery	102	73
House-breaking and theft	594	568
Cattle theft	132	133
Theft (simple)	962	788
Total	1,937	1,740

No case of communal tension was reported and the political situation was comparatively quiet.

Counterfeiting Coins and Currency Notes.

Three cases of counterfeiting coins were registered during the year as against one in the previous year. One case of possession of dies for counterfeiting currency notes was reported and it was pending enquiry at the close of the year.

Detection and Prevention of Crime.

There was an increase in the detection of cognisable crimes, the percentage of detection being 53 as against 47 in the previous year. The number of cases prosecuted by the prosecution staff rose from 1,532 in 1118 to 1,647 in 1119 of which 532 cases ended in conviction. Ten prisoners escaped from lock ups and five from other police custody in 1119 against fourteen and eleven respectively in 1118. Eleven of the above prisoners were recaptured. The police officers responsible for the escapes were punished departmentally.

Habitual Criminals.

202 habitual criminals were brought under surveillance during the year and 66 were removed from the rolls on account of death, infirmity, etc. The number of bad characters at large on the last day of the year was 600 of whom 266 were out of view.

Criminal Intelligence Bureau.

The Criminal Intelligence Bureau worked in co-operation with the Intelligence Bureaux of the neighbouring Districts and States in the collection and dissemination of information regarding crime and criminals. Of the 696 history-sheeted inter-district criminals that remained at the end of the previous year, 9 were struck off by reason of death and 5 criminals addicted to property crime were newly registered. The closed history-sheets of 8 inactive criminals were reopened during the year as the persons concerned were found to have resorted to crime. The history-sheets of 4 criminals were closed as they were inactive. The Bureau pointed out to the station house officers 9 habitual criminals for being registered as known

depredators and kept under surveillance. In many cases of house-breaking and theft the station house officers concerned were furnished by the Bureau with lists of probable criminals adopting the same *modus operandi*. The Bureau also helped in the apprehension of many deserters from the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force. The photographer attached to the Bureau took several photographs of suspected persons, unidentified dead bodies, letters, finger prints, etc.

Finger Print Bureau.

There were 26,695 finger prints on record at the beginning of the year and 1,354 finger prints were received for record during the year. 1,639 finger prints were received for search of which 354 were traced. At the end of the year there were 27,828 finger prints on record after elimination of 221 finger prints during the year. Expert evidence was given by the Bureau in 129 cases as against 109 in 1118.

Registration of Motor Vehicles.

The re-registration of motor vehicles consequent on the introduction of the new Motor Vehicles Act and the rules passed thereunder was continued during the year. Surprise checking of motor vehicles all over the State was conducted and many delinquents were brought to book.

The subjoined statement compares the number of motor vehicles registered during 1118 and 1119 :—

Type of Motor Vehicles.		*1118.*	*1119.*
Cars	...	2	...
Stage Carriages	...	...	23
Goods Vehicles	...	4	48
Motor Cycles	...	1	...
Ambulance Van	...	1	...
Total	...	8	71

The increase was due to the release of controlled chassis during the year.

23 vehicles were registered during the year as public conveyances. The number of fresh permits issued during the year was 310 against 363 in 1118. Fresh licenses to drive motor vehicles and learners' licenses issued during the year numbered 282 and 476 respectively against 238 and 159 respectively in 1118. Besides, 2,207 driving licenses were renewed and 751 were re-issued; thus working out a total of 3,716 as against 2,789 in the previous year. 150 drivers' badges were issued in 1119 against 125 in 1118 and the total number of badge holders at the end of the year was 5,549. The total number of conductors' pass books issued during the year was 151 against 120 in 1118 making thereby a total of 6,058 pass book holders at the close of the year.

Public Conveyances, Licenses and Badges.

The 'Flying Squad' organised for the prevention and detection of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules worked for some months in the year when it was stopped as it was found that their services could be better utilised for laying speed-traps. Special precautions were taken for the control of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the Trivandrum City and in all important towns and the one way traffic system which was introduced with a view to minimising accidents in places were there was congestion in traffic worked satisfactorily.

The subjoined statement shows the number of fatal accidents caused by motor vehicles during the past three years:—

Motor Accidents.

Year.	*Total number of accidents caused by Motor Vehicles.*	*Number that proved fatal.*
1117	85	34
1118	66	33
1119	107	23

Appropriate measures are being taken to reduce the number of accidents.

The number of carriages registered under the Hackney Carriage Act during the year was 718 against 734 in the previous year. The number of persons to whom licenses were issued to drive such carriages was 713 against 625 in 1118.

Hackney Carriages.

Cinematograph Act.

No prosecution was instituted during the year under the Cinematograph Act. 318 certificates were issued under the Act and a sum of Rs. 1,779-11-8 was realised as fees therefor.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The total receipts of the Police Department amounted to Rs. 1,08,692 against Rs. 1,14,257 in 1118. The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 9·56 lakhs to Rs. 12·39 lakhs in 1119.

JAILS.

The Central Prison.

Superintendent. *Mr. S. B. Krishnaswami Rao, B. A., B. L.*

Strength.

The following table shows the number of prisoners under different classes in 1119 :—

Class of prisoners.	Strength at the beginning of 1119.	Admitted in 1119.	Discharged in 1119.	Strength at the end of 1119.
Convicted	669	938	952	655
Under trial	41	64	85	20
Civil	3	21	19	5
Total	713	1,023	1,056	680

Convicted Prisoners.

Of the 938 convicted prisoners admitted during the year 929 were males and 9 females. Eight hundred and seventy seven males and 7 females were those convicted for offences under the Penal Code and 52 males and 2 females were those convicted under other laws. Of the males, 567 were Hindus, 226 Christians, 133 Mahommedans and 3 other classes; 21 of them were above 60 years of age, 135 between 41 and 60 years and 773 between 16 and 40 years of age. 493 were illiterates. Of

the females, 5 were Hindus and 4 Christians. Eight of them were illiterates. Of the convicts admitted during the year, 22 were those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life against 26 in 1118 and 6 were under sentence for rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement for varying terms as against 8 in the previous year. Capital punishment was meted out to 3 persons against 14 in the previous year. Those sentenced to simple imprisonment numbered 60 including 4 females. During the year 271 habitual criminals were admitted against 250 in the previous year. Of these 164 had one previous conviction, 41 had two previous convictions and 66 had more than two previous convictions.

The number of prisoners released on remission was 141, the maximum of remission earned being 11 months and 23 days.

Discipline.

The number of punishments inflicted for offences committed while in prison was 465 against 441 in the previous year.

Education of Convicts.

Classes were held for one hour in the morning and one hour in the evening every day for the education of youthful offenders. Religious and moral instruction was given to the prisoners.

Health and Mortality.

The number of prisoners admitted and treated in the jail hospital was 108. The number of deaths was only 6 against 14 in the previous year. Cases of mal-nutrition and vitamin deficiency were given special attention and suitable dietetic treatment and vitamin therapy were conducted soon after the admission of such cases. Of the 952 prisoners discharged during the year 58·82 per cent. gained weight, 3·57 per cent. lost weight, while the weight of 37·61 per cent. was steady.

Miscellaneous.

The Advisory Board constituted for re-considering the sentences of long term prisoners held two meetings during the year and recommended 45 cases out of which 41 were released with the sanction of Government.

Employment of Prisoners—Jail Services.

Cooking, sweeping, scavenging, road repairing, masonry, etc. absorbed a daily average of 100 prisoners while 33 did vegetable gardening and 77 were engaged in fodder cultivation. Of the remaining, about 120 were employed in the jail press as compositors, machine-men, book-binders, etc., and an equal number of prisoners were employed daily in the jail manufactory as weavers, leather workers, carpenters, tailors, etc. A scheme for giving gratuity to prisoners employed on remunerative labour and who worked in excess of the prescribed scale of tasks, was introduced during the year.

Cost of Maintenance.

The cost per head under dieting charges rose from Rs. 101-11-3 in 1118 to Rs. 178-26-7 in 1119. The increase is due to the general rise in the prices of dietary articles owing to war conditions. The average hospital charges was Rs. 9-9-12 against Rs. 12-1-5 in the previous year. The cost under bedding and clothing charges per head was Rs. 15-18-12 against Rs. 23-26-13 in the previous year. The total cost per head including all items was Rs. 359-10-4 as against Rs. 303-3-11 in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts from and the expenditure on the Central Prison during 1118 and 1119:—

Particulars.		1118.	1119.
		Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	Jail Manufacture	40,414	70,651
	Central Prison Press	210	210
	Miscellaneous	1,403	3,455
	Total ...	42,027	74,316
Expenditure		1,96,777	2,39,676

Lock-ups.

Persons sentenced by the criminal courts in the mofussil to imprisonment for a month or for a lesser period are confined in the station lock-ups while those sentenced to longer terms by such courts and those sentenced to imprisonment for any term by the criminal courts at Trivandrum are sent to the Central Prison. The number of prisoners confined in station lock-ups during 1119 was 10,086 against 8,932 in 1118.

Registration.

Director. *Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.*

Registry Offices.

The number of District Registrars' and Sub-Registrars' offices remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, 3 and 80 respectively. Twenty-one temporary Sub-Registrars' offices which were working at various places were continued during the year.

Number of Documents registered.

The total number of documents presented for registration fell from 757,063 in 1118 to 637,352 in 1119. Including the 41 documents pending registration at the commencement of the year, the total number of documents dealt with during the year was 637,393 of which 637,273 were registered, 74 were refused registration and 11 were returned unregistered at the request of the parties leaving 35 documents pending at the end of the year.

Value of Transactions.

In spite of the fall in the number of documents there was a rise in the aggregate value of the transactions which was Rs. 23·27 crores against Rs. 19·03 crores in 1118; the percentage of increase being 22·26. The value of registrations affecting immovable property rose from Rs. 18·75 crores in 1118 to Rs. 22·99 crores in 1119 while that relating to movable property fell from Rs. 28·22 lakhs in 1118 to Rs. 28·14 lakhs in 1119. The average value of a document was Rs. 365 as against Rs. 251 in the previous year. The document of the highest value registered during the year was for Rs. 25,44,642.

The number of registrations affecting immovable property was 625,641 or 98·17 per cent. of the total registrations against 745,863 or 98·53 per cent. in the preceding year. Mortgages and sales constituted 32·44 per cent. and 28·34 per cent. respectively of the total registrations against 31·77 per cent. and 30·13 per cent, respectively in 1118. The total area of land alienated by agriculturists in favour of non-agriculturists under mortgages and sales was 55,854 acres and 27,913 acres respectively against 65,537 acres and 47,476 acres respectively in the previous year. The number of transactions of value below Rs. 100 was 289,329 or 45·40 per cent. against 381,702 or 50·42 per cent. in 1118.

Classes of Documents.

The number of registrations relating to movable property was 10,221 or 1·60 per cent. of the total registrations against 9,919 or 1·31 per cent. in 1118. Money bonds formed 10·5 per cent., sales 11·2 per cent. and miscellaneous transactions 78·3 per cent. against 7·59 per cent., 9·03 per cent. and 83·48 per cent. respectively in 1118.

Three marriages under the Travancore Kshatriya Marriage Act were registered during the year.

The number of wills registered during the year was 1,367 against 1,190 in the preceding year. 55 sealed covers containing wills were deposited with the District Registrars during the year against 48 in 1118.

The number of chitties registered during the year was 651 against 355 in the previous year. The total number of chitties registered since the passing of the Chitties Act in 1094 was 17,288 of which 15,376 chitties terminated by the close of 1118 and 204 chitties in 1119. At the close of the year 1,708 chitties were being conducted and the total capital thereof amounted to Rs. 27·71 lakhs. No prosecution was instituted by the department for offences under the Chitties Act during the year under report.

Chitties.

The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 15·24 lakhs and the expenditure was Rs. 4·86 lakhs.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Weights and Measures.

The receipts from the fees realised under the Weights and Measures Act during the year amounted to Rs. 11,270-16-0 against Rs. 8,970 in 1118. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 1,136-15-12 against Rs. 897 in the previous year.

CHAPTER IX.

PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

Season and Rainfall.

The year under report was characterised by irregular and scanty rains throughout the State. The total rainfall during the year was below normal, the average for the whole State being 89·69 inches against 109·42 inches in 1118. In certain centres in South Travancore the rainfall during the North-East Monsoon was slightly above the average. The South-West Monsoon was very irregular and was practically a failure. The reports of heavy rainfall, exceeding 3 inches, from various centres, during the latter part of the year numbered only 33 as compared with 76 received during the North-East Monsoon period. The heaviest rainfall recorded in 24 hours during the year was 7·88 inches on the 24th Kanni 1119, at Pechipara.

Agriculture.

Director. *Mr. K. Subramonia Pillai, L. Ag.*

General.

The Department of Agriculture was organised in 1083 M. E. (1908 A. D.) and since then it has steadily grown in scope. The State is divided into three agricultural divisions, *viz.*, the Southern, the Central and the Northern, which are further sub-divided into ranges and sections, each section constituting the unit of administration in respect of agricultural propaganda. Each division is placed under a Divisional Agricultural Officer who is entrusted with the work of planning, guiding and controlling all agricultural experiments, demonstrations and propaganda in the division. There is an Agricultural Marketing Officer for the purpose of improving the methods of marketing the agricultural products of the State in co-operation with the Government of India.

General Agricultural Conditions.

The seasons were generally unfavourable for the growing of important crops like paddy, cocoanuts, arecanuts and pepper. The irregular incidence of rainfall and its uneven distribution were disadvantageous to the ryots. The failure of the South-West monsoon adversely affected the Kanni crop of paddy and delayed the transplantation of paddy for the subsequent crop as well. The prices of almost all products except paddy, rice and tapioca which were controlled by Government soared up considerably. The main exceptions were pepper and ginger the prices of which marked a steady fall during the year.

Research-Plant Pathology.

The survey of plant diseases was continued under the control of the Plant Pathologist. A new focus of infection of the cocoanut palm was noticed in the littoral tract of Chellanam in Cochin-Kanayannur taluk of the Cochin State. Vigorous control measures were started for preventing the spread of the disease into the State. Inoculation experiments to test for resistance were conducted in pot culture on seedlings raised from trees showing a high degree of resistance to the disease under normal field conditions. Inoculation experiments with leaf pathogens were also conducted on the tender shoots of trees in the open under field conditions. The manurial experiments at Oachira Farm were continued as in the previous year. The comparative effect of several fungicides was tested and 32 soil samples were subjected to chemical analysis during the year. The two paddy breeding stations opened at Moncompu and Adoor in 1116 were continued. Seventeen types of paddy were maintained for trial and observations were made on them and the results were recorded.

Village Project Scheme.

The Village Project Scheme which was started at Thazhakudy in the Thovala taluk in 1118 under the auspices of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research functioned satisfactorily during the year. Particular attention was paid to improvements by way of better seeds, implements and manures, the improvement of livestock and the introduction of subsidiary industries like bee and poultry keeping. The work in these directions progressed well during the year.

Preparation of Compost Manure.

The work of composting town refuse into manure was started in 16 municipal towns during the year under report. A total quantity of 184,000 c. ft. of compost manure was produced by the close of the year and it was sold out to agriculturists.

Crops.

Paddy, cocoanut, tapioca and sugar-cane are some of the important agricultural products in the State. Manurial and cultural experiments in respect of paddy and cocoanut cultivation were conducted in the Government Farms. As a result of the experiments it was found that the yield of paddy from plots treated with nightsoil compost was uniformly the best. A manure mixture consisting of oil-cakes, bone-meal and ashes was found to be very effective for the cocoanut palm. Milling and boiling tests of 21 varieties of sugar-cane were carried out to determine the yield of jaggery and the proportion of jaggery to canes. In order to convince the ryots of the advantages of using better manures 46 manurial demonstrations were conducted on the ryot's fields in various parts of the State. 11,391 lbs. of selected paddy seeds were sold to the ryots for cultivation.

Cotton was cultivated as an experimental measure in an area of 100 acres of land at Aramboly. The experiment was a success and a total yield of 9,000 lbs. of cotton was obtained till the end of the year.

Dry Farming.

In the dry crops farm at Aramboly groundnut, cholam, bajra and horse-gram were the important crops raised during the year.

Fodder Crops.

The Grass Farm at Chuliamalai continued to function satisfactorily during the year under report. A total quantity of 66 tons of fodder to the value of Rs. 471 was raised in the Farm and sold to cattle owners in Trivandrum.

Fruit Culture.

The important fruit trees cultivated in the Fruit Farm at Cape Comorin were graft mangoes, grapes, sapodillas, pomegranates, etc. The demands for fruit seedlings from all parts of the State were met as far as possible.

Travancore during the year. Effective measures were adopted to bring these pests under control. The Rice stem borer in Nanjinad, Mites on chillies, bud rot on cocoanut, mango hopper and minor pests on a variety of crops were successfully combated in South Travancore. Vigorous control measures were adopted to combat the 'Bunchy top' disease of plantains that appeared in Kottayam and neighbouring places. The 'Mahali' disease of arecanut which made its appearance in the taluks of Changanacherry and Meenachil was brought under control by spraying the bunches with Bordeaux mixture prior to the monsoons.

Control of Pests and Diseases.

There were two Agricultural Schools, one at Kottarakara and the other at Koni. The final examination of the Kottarakara school was conducted in the month of Kumbhom and 20 out of 21 candidates who sat for the examination came out successful. A fresh batch of 20 students was admitted to the school in Medom. The school at Koni had a strength of 23 at the beginning of the year. This batch will complete its training during 1120.

Agricultural Education.

The livestock improvement scheme in the Trivandrum City had to be stopped temporarily towards the middle of the year as the stud bulls under the scheme became unserviceable and could not be replaced in time owing to the difficulty of securing pure bred Sindhi bulls. Before the middle of the year the stud bulls served 104 cows of which 84 were newly registered ones. 51 cows previously served by these bulls calved during the year. The two Murrah stud buffaloes stationed in the buffaloe grading station at Koovapady served 43 she-buffaloes. The two stud buffaloes were auctioned towards the close of the year as they were found unfit for stud purposes. A stud bull farm with 10 Sindhi calves was started at Puliyara in the Shencottah taluk during the year. The owners of 29 stud bulls of approved quality were awarded grants at the rate of Rs. 50 per annum. As an aid to the improvement of livestock in the State 1,585 scrub bulls were castrated during the year.

Cattle Breeding.

With a view to preventing indiscriminate slaughter and thus conserving the useful stock, the Veterinary Inspectors of the department were authorised to issue permits for the slaughter of cattle. Accordingly they issued 3,398 permits during the year and detected 14 cases of illicit slaughter. The offenders in these cases were prosecuted before the magistrates and convicted.

Slaughter of Cattle.

The Milk Recording Scheme which was introduced towards the close of the year 1117 was continued during the year under report. Altogether 325 cows were registered under this scheme and the complete lactations of 65 cows were recorded. The staff attached to the scheme carried on propaganda work for the improvement of livestock in the Trivandrum City.

Milk Recording Scheme.

The Veterinary Department continued the policy of giving free veterinary aid and medicines to all agricultural livestock. Particular attention was paid to see that proper veterinary aid was placed within easy reach of the ryots even in the remotest rural areas. The total number of veterinary institutions during the year was 27. New veterinary dispensaries were opened at Varkalai and Vaikom and itinerant Veterinary Inspectors were appointed at Muvattupuzha, Nagercoil and Peermade. The examination of clinical material for correct diagnosis was done in the Clinical Laboratory. 29,661 cases underwent treatment during the year in the veterinary hospitals and dispensaries in the State. The number of castrations performed was 1,191 and the number of surgical operations conducted was 1,914. During the year 49 cases of disease among elephants were treated as against 38 in the previous year. The veterinary officers of the Department visited 555 villages and rendered veterinary aid.

Veterinary Aid.

A survey was started to estimate the annual production of fruits, especially mangoes and citrus varieties. As required by the Central Marketing Department, an effort was made to improve the marketing conditions of special commodities. The Egg Marketing Expansion Board continued to function during the year under

Marketing.

report. Towards the latter half of the year an Egg Control Order was promulgated and the export and trade of eggs were placed under control.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the Department amounted to Rs. 29,979 against Rs. 19,309 in 1118 and the expenditure was Rs. 1·83 lakh against Rs. 1·46 lakh in 1118.

INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY.

Director. *Mr. E. I. Chacko, B. A., B. L.*

Minerals.

Mica.

During the year under report intensive work was done on mica on account of the great demand for the mineral. The deposits of mica located in the prospecting centres at Vattiyurkavu and Neyyur were worked to increase the output as far as possible. There was steady improvement in the quality of the mineral mined. A sum of nearly Rs. 9,000 was realised during the year by the sale of mica.

Graphite.

Prospecting work for graphite was continued during the year. Besides meeting the demands of the local pencil factories and the Government departments, sales of graphite were also effected. Exploratory work was conducted in order to locate fresh deposits of graphite.

Industries.

Ceramic Factory, Kundara.

Mr. K. N. Madhava Panicker continued to be in charge of the factory throughout the year. During the first half of the year the production and refining of clay was rather slow due mainly to the change in the system of mining from the underground to the open cast method. Dearth of labour was also a serious factor affecting production. In all, only 1,644 tons of first and special quality clay could be produced against 2,386 tons in the previous year. The factory concentrated its attention mainly on the manufacture and supply of articles required by the

Supply Department of the Government of India. Crockery, electrical goods, etc., formed the main items of manufacture. Orders to the value of Rs. 2·69 lakhs were received of which supplies to the value of Rs. 2·30 lakhs were made.

There was a marked improvement in the manufacture and sale of goods in the factory. The total value of manufactured articles sold during the year was Rs. 2·53 lakhs and that of china clay was Rs. 1·05 lakh.

Rubber Factory.

The Rubber Factory continued to work under the management of Sir Chinnubhai Madhowlal Ranchodlal, Baronet of Ahmedabad in partnership with the Government. The chief items of manufacture were rubber-inserted khaki sheets, ground sheets, surgical tubings and hose pipes.

The Travancore Plywood Industries.

The Plywood Factory was opened by the Elaya Raja of Travancore on the 7th Vrischikam 1119 and regular work began from that date. Water resistant plywood, wood wool, chair seats and teapoys were some of the items manufactured and sold from the factory.

Paper Manufacture.

The Punalur Paper Mills made steady progress during the year. The usual quantities of brown, badami, match and coloured papers were manufactured and supplied to the Travancore and Madras Governments, Printing Presses, Match Factories, etc. The Mills had a steady supply of power from the hydro-electric system during the year. The position in regard to the supply of spare parts and essential chemicals improved to some extent in the latter half of the year.

Sugar Manufacture.

The Sugar Factory at Thuckalai continued to work under the management of the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals, Ltd., with Messrs. Parry & Co., as the Secretaries and Treasurers. The year under report was the seventh year of its working. The factory worked for 66 days against 64 days in the previous year. 687 tons of sugar were manufactured and sold

at the Government controlled price. 355 tons of treacle were produced as a bye-product in the refining process and transferred to the Distillery at Nagercoil for being distilled into arrack.

The Match Industry was resuscitated in Travancore by the Vanjinad Matches and Industries, Ltd., which is a new concern.

Match Industry.

The manufacture of safety matches was commenced about the middle of Thulam 1119 under the management of Messrs. Moti Ltd. Notwithstanding the difficulty in obtaining raw materials and chemicals the factory maintained steady progress during the year. The factory produced goods worth Rs 9·12 lakhs. The high class safety matches produced in the factory have earned the appreciation of the consumers in general.

In addition to matches the factory manufactured packing cases, wood wool, wood flour used for Bakelite materials and dry cells. There is a well-equipped workshop attached to the factory and it undertakes all kinds of turning and drilling job works.

Operations of the Aluminium Reduction works of the Company continued throughout the year. Production for the period

Aluminium Co., Ltd.

amounted to 1,586 tons, this being the maximum output obtainable with the present limited amount of power available. During the year the electrode plant was put into operation.

The Travancore Ogale Glass Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Alwaye, commenced working during the year. Large orders for

Glass Manufacture.

glass wares required for the fighting forces were booked. Articles such as bottles, tumblers, chimneys, globes, plates and dishes were manufactured.

During the year under report the Quilon Pencil Factory made good progress in the manufacture of blacklead and coloured

Pencil Manufacture.

pencils. The factory supplied 150 gross of pencils to this Government and 2,000 gross to the Government of India. In order to increase the output and thereby meet the growing demand for pencils the factory was extended and additional machines installed.

Owing to the scarcity of red cedar and coal the Bhupati Pencil Factory at Quilon was not able to work in full swing during the major portion of the year.

About 1,000 gross of pencils were produced during the year in the Golden Industries at Chingavanam.

The Travancore Fertilizers & Chemicals, Ltd.

During the year under report the Company commenced the construction of a sulphuric acid factory at Kundara on the land leased to them by Government. The factory building was nearing completion at the close of the year. The construction of a fertilizer factory at Alwaye was in progress at the end of the year.

Cottage Industries.

The important cottage industries carried on during the year were :—

1. Hand-made paper manufacture.
2. Manufacture of carpets out of low count yarn.
3. Manufacture of tape of different varieties.
4. Hand-spinning and weaving industry.
5. Manufacture of writing chalk and distemper paints.
6. Manufacture of mats with *kora* grass.

Sales Depot, Trivandrum.

The Sales Depot continued to function as an agency for the advertisement and sale of the products of the cottage industries of the State. The products of the various cottage industries of the State were displayed in the depot along with wooden toys and the articles of the ceramic factory.

The S.M. R. V. Institute, Nagercoil.

At the beginning of the year there were 24 students on the rolls of this institution. Sixteen students appeared for the final examination and 12 of them came out successful. Twelve students were newly admitted during the year and the strength of the institution at the end of the year was 19. The students were given instruction on the theory and practice of weaving and spinning according to the prescribed syllabus of studies. Demonstrations in warping and sizing were also given.

At the end of the year there were 92 aided and 60 unaided technical schools and 19 approved commercial schools. The subjects taught in the technical schools were weaving, carpentry, smithery, mat-weaving, drawing, rattan industry, etc. Weaving was taught in the majority of industrial schools.

Industrial Schools.

Besides the 19 approved commercial schools, there was a Government School of Commerce at Alleppey which gave instruction in commercial subjects like book-keeping, banking, shorthand and typewriting.

The Itinerant Weaving Party camped in selected localities for giving instruction in weaving to the pupils of the backward communities. During the year under report the party camped at Karakad in the Tiruvalla taluk and Kadambanad in the Kunnathur taluk.

Itinerant Weaving Party.

The Board of Industries met once during the year and 3 applications for loans were disposed of and an aggregate amount of Rs. 2,000 was granted.

Miscellaneous.

The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 12,342 and the expenditure was Rs. 98,736.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Factories and Labour.

Seven labour laws were in force at the close of 1119. The working of these measures has secured many advantages for labour and has brought about closer and healthier relationship between the employer and the employee.

Labour Laws.

All the factories wherein power is used and more than 19 workers are employed, have come under the purview of the Factories Act. The number of factories on the register increased from 215 in 1118 to 225 in 1119 of which 97 were seasonal and 128 non-seasonal. 24 new factories were registered and 14 factories were removed from the operation of the Act-

The Factories Act.

The number of accidents which occurred in factories during the year was 423 as against 383 in the previous year. Of these 6 accidents were fatal, 32 were serious and 385 were of a minor character.

A general exemption was granted for a period of one year to cashew factories from the restrictions in respect of employment of child workers. Two printing presses were exempted from the provisions of certain sections of the Act for a period of twenty days to enable them to do some urgent printing work in connection with the general election to the Legislature.

Trade Disputes.

In August 1943, the workers in the Engineering Department of Messrs. Harrisons and Crossfield Ltd., Quilon went on strike as the result of a dispute between the Company and the Labour Union regarding the scheme for distribution of contractor's profits in the Engineering Department. The dispute was referred, for arbitration, to the District Judge, Quilon.

Complaints were received from the representatives of the Coir Factory Workers' Union at Shertalai regarding the low rates of wages paid by the employers. These were enquired into and discussed at a meeting of the representatives of employers and employees held at Shertalai on the 21st Chingom 1119. The employers agreed to pay suitable dearness allowance to the workers. A Committee called the Industrial Relations Committee was constituted with seven representatives of the owners of factories and seven representatives of the workers, with the Tahsildar of Shertalai as the President, to settle matters in dispute.

There was a strike in March 1944 in the A. D. Cotton Mills Ltd., Quilon. The main points of dispute were in respect of demand for increase of wages, night-shift and dismissal of workers. Negotiations were carried on and the dispute was amicably settled and the strike was called off.

There were some labour troubles of a minor character in the Aluminium Company and the Standard Pottery Works at Alwaye. The disputes were amicably settled.

During the year eight cases of fatal accidents were reported. There were 26 cases for the payment of compensation during the year. Of these the payment of compensation was sanctioned in respect of 14 cases and a sum of Rs. 5,859-5-3 was disbursed to the dependants of the deceased workmen. The claims in respect of eight cases were decided and the award made. But the money due could not be disbursed as the enquiries relating to the investment of the moneys for the advantage of the beneficiaries were not completed. The remaining cases were in various stages of enquiry.

Workmen's Compensation Act.

24 cases of accidents resulting in permanent or temporary disablement were reported during the year. Compensation in respect of these cases was settled by agreement between the parties.

There were 39 registered Trade Unions at the end of the previous year. During 1119 ten new Unions were registered. Most of the Trade Unions relate to workers in factories such as coir factories, cashew factories, textile factories, oil mills, etc. Recently there has been a move among labourers engaged in other industries also to organise themselves into Trade Unions and a few such Unions have been registered.

The Trade Unions Act.

The change in economic conditions brought about by the war has greatly affected labourers and there has been a persistent demand for increase in wages and for the payment of dearness allowance. The employers generally speaking were not behind hand in coming to the aid of their labourers by opening cost-price grain shops and co-operative stores attached to factories and by suitably enhancing the rates of wages. A number of large industrial establishments have also opened food canteens for their workers.

Labour Welfare.

Economic Development Board.

The Economic Development Board constituted in the State is intended to co-ordinate the activities of the several development departments and to secure non-official advice on the development

of the economic resources of the State, the improvement of agriculture, the establishment of new industries and the expansion of old ones. There were on the Board 25 members of whom 7 were officials and 18 non-officials. The Board was in session for two days during the year, while the sub-committees of the Board met three times. The Board considered several matters of public welfare and made recommendations to Government chiefly on the need for:

(1) an investigation into the cultivation of the forest lands thrown open for the production of food crops;

(2) provision of lands for hill-paddy cultivation; and

(3) stocking of paddy seeds, establishment of depots for distribution of seeds, fixing up a definite quota of food grains for each taluk.

Control of Capital Issues.

The control of capital issues was introduced in the State during Kumbhom 1119.

Till the end of the year 86 applications for previous consent to the issue and 7 for the condonation of unauthorised issue were received. Seventy applications of the former class and 6 applications of the latter class were disposed of during the year. The remaining 17 applications were pending with the applicants from whom further information and documents were due.

Of the 70 applications for previous consent disposed of, consent was given in 61 cases involving an aggregate capital of Rs. 3.65 crores and refused in 9 cases involving a capital of Rs. 28.8 lakhs. No application for the condonation of unauthorised issue was refused. The refusals amounted to 12.8 per cent of the total number of applications and 8.7 per cent of the total amount of capital asked for. Of the 61 proposals for which consent was granted, 23 cases were initial issues by companies to be newly incorporated, 20 in this State, 2 in British India and 1 in Cochin and the remaining 38 cases were for further issues by existing companies.

Joint Stock Companies.

Registrar. *Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.*

The total number of companies on the rolls at the end of 1119 was 672, consisting of 501 working companies, 167 companies in liquidation and 4 defunct companies against 637 in the previous year. The number of companies registered fell from 82 in 1118 to 54 in 1119. Of these, 48 were limited by shares and 6 were associations not for profit, limited by guarantee.

Number of Companies.

There were 436 companies limited by shares on the rolls at the end of the year of which 250 were public and 186 private companies, as against 403 companies at the end of the previous year. The authorised, subscribed and paid up capitals of these 436 companies taken together were Rs. 19·91 crores, Rs. 6·08 crores and Rs. 5·02 crores respectively. The companies limited by shares were engaged in various spheres of business as follows :—

Companies limited by shares.

		1118	*1119*
Banking, loan and insurance	...	137	138
Transit and Transport	...	17	18
Trading and manufacturing	...	142	167
Mills and presses	...	8	10
Tea and other Planting Companies	...	87	89
Mining and quarrying	...	2	2
Breweries and distilleries	...	1	1
Sugar (including jaggery) manufacture	...	2	2
Hotels, theatres and entertainments	...	2	3
Companies other than those specified above.		5	6
		403	436

There were 165 companies in various stages of liquidation at the close of the year 1119, including 14 companies that went into liquidation during the year.

Associations not for Profit.

The number of associations at work at the beginning of 1119 was 49. Of these, one became defunct during the year. Including six associations newly registered, the number of associations working at the end of the year was 54.

Companies of Foreign Incorporation.

There were 84 companies having places of business in the State at the end of 1119. Of these, 14 were engaged in banking and loan, 7 in insurance, 2 in transit and transport, 32 in trading and manufacturing, 2 in mills and presses, 10 in tea, 11 in rubber, 2 in mining and quarrying and the rest in miscellaneous work. Twenty two companies were those incorporated in England, 5 in Scotland, 1 in Holland, 3 in the United States, 1 in Newzealand, 4 in Colombo, 40 in British India and 8 in the Cochin State.

Inspection and Prosecution.

The offices of 39 companies were inspected by the Registrar against 32 in the previous year, while 313 companies were inspected by the Senior Inspector against 263 in 1118. The prosecutions launched against 8 companies were pending at the end of 1118 and 13 companies were prosecuted during the year. The prosecutions against 8 companies were withdrawn during the course of the year as they subsequently filed all the overdue documents and paid the costs of prosecution.

Co-operative Department.

Registrar. *Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.*

General.

The State is divided into three co-operative divisions, the Southern, Central and Northern and each division is further divided into circles. As in the previous year the department followed the policy of rectification and consolidation of societies and also made substantial progress in laying the foundations for the future development of the co-operative movement.

Number and Nature of Societies.

The number of societies registered during the year was 152 as against 77 in the previous year. This large increase was due to the change in the economic conditions of the country brought about by the war. Of the newly registered societies, 118 were stores societies. During the year the registrations of 22 societies were cancelled as against 8 in the previous year. The number of societies on the rolls at the end of the year was 1,663 of which 29 had not started work. The working societies at the end of 1118 and 1119 are classified as follows:—

			1118.	*1119.*
1.	Central Bank	...	1	1
2.	Central Institute	...	1	1
3.	Central Wholesale Society	...	1	1
4.	Central Weaving Society	...	1	1
5.	Taluk Banks and Banking Unions	...	20	19
6.	Supervising Unions	...	23	24
7.	Urban Banks	...	17	17
8.	Agricultural Credit Societies	...	1,007	1,005
9.	Do. with production and sale	...	23	28
10.	Non-agricultural Credit Societies	...	200	198
11.	Do. with production and sale	...	25	32
12.	Distributive Societies	...	91	218
13.	Multipurpose Societies	...	32	47
14.	Other types	...	31	42
	Total	...	1,473	1,634

Membership.

The total number of members in all the societies together rose from 184,061 in 1118 to 200,091 in 1119. Of these, 24,700 were women members. The proportion of women to men members was 1 to 7. Women members formed 3·8 per cent of the total women population of the State. The total membership of the movement represented 3·3 per cent of the population of the State.

Finances.

The following statement indicates the financial condition of the movement during the years 1118 and 1119, in respect of share capital, deposits and working capital of societies :—

(RUPEES IN LAKHS.)

Year.	Share capital.	Receipts under deposits.	Disbursements under deposits.	Working Capital.
1118 . . .	25·83	23·45	19·52	69·83
1119 . . .	33·45	48·05	35·99	81·75

The phenomenal increase in the receipts under deposits during the year testifies to the readiness with which advances were made to co-operative societies for business purposes and indirectly affords an index to the growing confidence of the investing public in the soundness of co-operative societies. The total turn over of all the societies together was Rs. 6·05 crores against Rs. 2·38 crores in 1118. The average turn over per society was Rs. 38,736 and per member Rs. 302, the corresponding figures for the previous year being only Rs. 16,469 and Rs. 129 respectively.

Management of Societies.

The societies were managed by committees, the strength of which varied from 5 to 11, elected by the General Body. All the societies together had 10,596 committee members. Of these, 8,838 or 83·4 per cent were non-officials. The cost of management incurred by the societies was Rs. 3·46 lakhs. The percentage of cost to the aggregate working capital was 3·8 against 3·5 in 1118 and the average cost per society was Rs.185 against Rs. 164 in the previous year.

The Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Trivandrum.

The Trivandrum Central Co-operative Bank was the first co-operative society to be registered in the State and it was designed to serve as the apex bank for the societies in the State. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies assumed charge as the Chairman of the Bank on the 9th Chingom 1119 for the purpose of re-organising the bank which was not working very satisfactorily. The Bank made all round progress during the year. The total receipts under deposits amounted to Rs. 6·67 lakhs against Rs. 2·50 lakhs in 1118. The loans issued to societies amounted to Rs. 7·18 lakhs. The total collections under loans including principal and interest amounted to Rs. 2·86 lakhs. The total turn over increased from Rs. 9·51 lakhs in 1118 to Rs 59·49 lakhs in 1119. The Bank earned a net profit of Rs. 18,473 after re-couping the losses of the previous years and declared a dividend of 4 per cent to members for the first time after 1108 M. E.

Taluk Banks.

Taluk Banks constitute the financial agency interlinking the apex bank with the primary societies. Including three banking unions the number of Taluk Banks designed to serve as intermediary financing agency between the central bank and the primary societies was 19. They had a working capital of Rs. 13·11 lakhs against Rs. 12·79 lakhs in the previous year and a paid up share capital of Rs. 4·57 lakhs against Rs. 4·88 lakhs in 1118. They issued loans to individuals and societies to the extent of Rs. 0·98 lakh and Rs. 4·85 lakhs respectively.

Urban Banks.

Urban Banks form the principal agency providing co-operative finance for the middle class population inhabiting the urban areas. The number of Urban Banks was 17 as in the previous year. The working capital and paid up share capital of the Urban Banks were nearly Rs. 5·5 lakhs and Rs. 2·1 lakhs respectively, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 5·24 lakhs and Rs. 2·09 lakhs respectively.

Agricultural Societies.

The primary agricultural credit societies constitute the bulk of co-operative organisations in the State and the soundness of the co-operative structure depends on the soundness of these primary societies. The following figures show their position :—

Particulars.	*1118*	*1119*
Number of societies	1,085	1,122
Number of members	114,618	127,370
Paid-up share capital	Rs. 14·86 lakhs	Rs. 15·85 lakhs
Working capital	Rs. 29·18 „	Rs. 34·21 „
Reserve Fund	Rs. 6·94 „	Rs. 7·01 „

Non-agricultural Societies.

There were 467 non-agricultural societies during the year. The following figures show their position :—

Particulars.	*1118*	*1119*
Number of societies	363	467*
Number of members	66,790	70,209
Paid-up share capital	Rs. 12·69 lakhs	Rs. 16·30 lakhs
Working capital	Rs. 31·00 „	Rs. 38·13 „
Reserve Fund	Rs. 3·49 „	Rs. 3·58 „

* Including 19 taluk banks and banking unions.

Non-credit Activities.

As a result of the change in economic conditions brought about by the war, credit was no longer the need of the average ryot. The demand for commodities was greater and the work of distribution caught the imagination of co-operators generally. People rallied round co-operative societies and utilised them for ensuring the equitable distribution of controlled articles. 850 societies were engaged in the work of the distribution of controlled articles. 44 societies took part in the food production drive and cultivated 1,380 acres of land while 14 societies engaged themselves in cottage industries. Eight societies maintained stud bulls and six had cattle pounds.

The 27 taluk supervising unions (including the three Banking Unions) and the Travancore Co-operative Institute Ltd., constituted the main agency on the non-official side for supervision and propaganda. The supervising unions supervised and regulated the work of distribution of controlled articles undertaken by the societies in their respective jurisdictions.

Non-official Supervision.

Audit is a statutory function of the Registrar and accordingly the entire work was undertaken by the departmental officers. Out of 1,633 working societies (excepting the Central Bank) all except 44 were audited during the year. The records of 38 societies were not made available for audit and those of 6 were in civil courts. The Registrar was on tour for 104 days and inspected 84 societies. The total number of societies inspected by the Assistant Registrars was 486.

Inspection and Audit.

The cost to Government during the year in working the Co-operative Societies Act was Rs. 1,15,116 as against Rs. 97,464 in the previous year and the average cost to Government per society in 1119 was Rs. 65·5 against Rs. 63·9 in 1118.

Cost of working the Co-operative Societies Act.

A co-operative training class was started during the year for training co-operative workers. The course of study in the class lasted for 2½ months. 73 students were admitted to the class. Lectures were delivered by experienced Inspectors of the department, a few qualified non-official co-operators and some officers of the Agricultural and Public Health departments. 69 students sat for the final examination of whom 43 came out successful.

Miscellaneous.

Patents and Designs.

Controller of Patents and Designs and Registrar of Trade Marks. — *Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker, B. A., B. L.*

Thirty patents in respect of the following inventions were sealed during the year under report:—

1. Recovery of kernels and cashew shell liquid from cashew nuts.

2. Reclamation of rubber waste for producing substitutes of hard and soft rubber, vulcanite and other powders.
3. Process for making collapsible and flexible containers and other articles without using metals or rubber.
4. An improved kitchen stove.
5. Extraction of cashew nut shell oil.
6. Process for the extraction of resinous material from the milky juice of the plant Sarcostemma Brevi-stigma, etc.
7. A duplicating ink and the process for its preparation.
8. Conversion of Bhilavan shell liquid to a non-vesicating drying product.
9. Do. Do. (another process).
10. Conversion of cashew nut shell liquid to a drying product.
11. Improvements in plastic compositions.
12. Preparation of rubber composition for the manufacture of artificial cork, etc.
13. Conversion of Bhilavan shell liquid to a non-vesicating drying product.
14. Do. Do. (another process).
15. Improvements in or relating to the degradation of proteinous materials.
16. Improvements in or relating to laminated boards.
17. Improvements in or relating to the degradation of proteinous materials (another process).
18. Process for the preparation of a depolarising agent for dry cells.
19. Process for improving the mechanical and physical properties of wood.
20. Improvements in or relating to laminated corrugated boards.
21. Improvements in or relating to containers, receptacles, utensils and the like.

22. A process for the transformation of castor oil gel into a soluble viscous liquid.
23. Improved process for the production of lubricating oils.
24. Improved hydraulic fluids.
25. Improved process and apparatus for producing laminated bodies and articles therefrom having a basis of vegetable fibres.
26. Improved outlet attachment for inflators.
27. Improvements in and relating to hospital bed steads.
28. A process for obtaining resin from agricultural wastes such as Bagasse and jute waste and the resin so obtained.
29. Improvements in or relating to folding legs of beds and the like.
30. Improvements in or relating to roofs, and tiles therefor.

Of the above, one patent was registered in favour of a Travancorean and the rest in favour of British subjects, British Indian subjects, British Ceylon subjects and subjects of Mysore and Bhavanagar States.

The number of applications for patents received during the year was 24 against 35 during the previous year. 36 patents were renewed against 31 in 1118. Three patents lapsed owing to non-payment of renewal fees.

No design was registered during the year.

Under Section 80 of the Travancore Trade Marks Act which enables deposit of trade marks in the Patent Office by intending applicants for registration, 442 applications were received during the year for deposit of trade marks. Including 190 such applications which were pending scrutiny at the close of the previous year, there were 632 applications for disposal. Of these, certificates of deposit were issued in respect of 199 applications and the rest were pending scrutiny at the close of the year.

The total receipts in the year on account of the working of the Patents and Designs Act and the Trade Marks Act amounted to Rs. 4,032 and the expenditure to Rs. 594, the corresponding amounts for the previous year being Rs. 3,612 and Rs. 408.

Uplift of Backward Communities.

Protector of Backward Communities. — *Mr. R. Vasudeva Poduval, B. A.*

General

The main items of work undertaken by Government for the uplift of backward communities comprised the following, viz., assignment of lands on concessional terms, establishment of colonies and centres for intensive amelioration work, provision of common buildings for social and religious congregations, grant of educational concessions, maintenance of free hostels, organisation of thrift societies, popularisation of industries and other miscellaneous items of ameliorative work.

Assignment of Lands on Concessional Terms.

Land is assigned on concessional terms to individual families of backward communities and also to families living in compact blocks. Under the scheme of increased food production an extent of 191 acres was leased out to the backward communities during the year under report.

Colonies

Colonies for backward communities were in existence in the following places, viz., Sachivottamapuram near Kottayam, Narikulam, Veliathunad, Pacode, Elanthoor, Manickamangalam and Anchamada. The Sachivottamapuram Colony is the largest of the colonies having an extent of about 113 acres of land. The thrift society organised in the colony worked satisfactorily during the year. The construction of a weaving factory in the colony was completed during the year. The work in connection with the opening of a colony at Kadambanad (Kunnathur taluk) was in progress and 16 houses were constructed during the year.

General Ameliorative Measures.

Provision of common buildings for social and congregational purposes was one of the important items of work attended to by the Department. Common buildings were constructed in Nemom, Nettayam, Thazhakara, Haripad, Manickamangalam, Elamgamangalam and Edayaranmula during the year under report. In pursuance of the policy of providing drinking water in centres inhabited by backward communities 15 new wells were sunk and 26 old ones were repaired. Eighteen burial grounds were also provided in different parts of the State.

Educational Concessions.

Fee concessions were granted as usual to pupils of backward communities in schools and colleges. The amount covered by such concessions is estimated at Rs. 63,157. Three students of the University College and one student of the Engineering College were exempted from payment of their tuition fees. 27 students who appeared for the University Examination were exempted from payment of their examination fees. Poor and deserving pupils of the backward communities in the English, Malayalam, Tamil and Sanskrit schools were exempted from payment of fees for their examinations. Stipends and scholarships were also given to deserving students. The free supply of Malayalam and Tamil Readers to all the children of backward communities reading in classes III and IV of the Malayalam and Tamil schools of the State was continued during the year. A sum of Rs. 900 was available during the year by way of interest on the endowment of Rs. 76,489 made by the Temple Entry Proclamation Memorial Committee to afford better facilities for the higher education of members of the backward communities

Hostels, Orphanages, etc.

The free Harijan hostels at Trivandrum, Kottayam and Nagercoil continued to function during the year. Grants were paid for the maintenance of 20 institutions comprising hostels, orphanages, reading rooms, libraries, etc., intended for the children of the backward communities.

A distinct advance was made towards the popularisation of cottage industries in the colonies of backward communities. All the various activities of the Uplift Department during the year were designed to bring about the economic and social development of the backward communities and thereby to raise their standard of living and general welfare.

Industries.

The expenditure incurred in 1119 for the uplift of backward communities amounted to Rs. 1·36 lakh.

Expenditure.

CHAPTER X.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department.

Chief Engineer.

Mr. J. W. Chacko, Chief Engineer, Workshops and War Industries till the 4th Meenam 1119.

Mr. I. C. Chacko, B. Sc., Chief Engineer Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous, till the 4th Meenam 1119 and Chief Engineer of the whole P. W. D. from that date.

Outlay.

A sum of Rs. 52·97 lakhs was spent on public works during 1119 excluding a stock suspense of Rs. 5·30 lakhs and the cost of contribution works executed by the department on which a separate expenditure of Rs. 7·56 lakhs was incurred. Of the total expenditure a sum of Rs. 42·79 lakhs was spent on ordinary public works charged to revenue including the Road Development Fund against Rs. 28·98 lakhs in 1118. A net sum of Rs. 10·16 lakhs was spent on capital works not charged to revenue. This expenditure was mainly under the following items :—

		Rupees in lakhs.
Military works	...	0·97
Town Planning Scheme, Trivandrum	...	1·78
Acquisition of lands for the S. M. V. School, Trivandrum	...	0·28
Cost of lands etc., for the use of the Chackai Thampanur extension of the Railway	...	6·56
Constructing a godown for storing food grains at Valiathurai	...	0·54

The development of communications has always formed an important item in the State's programme of Public Works. Funds are provided from the general revenues for the construction and maintenance of roads. A Road Development Fund has been instituted for the purpose of opening and improving trunk roads. The existing road system which is well co-ordinated within the State is connected with the road systems of the adjacent British Indian Districts and the Cochin State, so as to ensure through traffic. There are main arterial roads throughout the length and breadth of the State to which is linked a network of subsidiary and feeder roads. The road system also connects the internal waterways and ports. It has further been constructed in such a manner as to open up and serve important planting areas and industrial centres. The phenomenal increase in motor traffic during recent years has led to the elaboration of a programme for widening the old highways to suit modern requirements and the allotment of increased maintenance grants. The major portion of the expenditure incurred by the P. W. D from year to year has been under the item of communications. The expenditure on communications during the year under report was Rs. 25·73 lakhs against Rs. 16·34 lakhs in 1118. Of this a sum of Rs. 8·28 lakhs was spent for the construction of new roads and bridges and for improvements to the existing ones and the balance of Rs. 17·45 lakhs was spent for the maintenance of the existing means of communication in the State. The length of the roads newly opened and of those newly improved during the year was 11 and 63 miles respectively against 9 and 58 miles respectively in 1118. The total length of communications maintained during the year was 5,568 miles consisting of 1,293 miles of metalled roads, 2,394 miles of unmetalled roads, 989 miles of village roads including cart-tracks, 62 miles of planters' roads, 439 miles of traces and 391 miles of navigation canals and back-waters. The average cost of maintenance per mile was Rs. 755 for metalled roads, Rs. 221 for unmetalled roads, Rs. 17 for village roads, Rs. 129 for planters' roads, Rs. 37 for traces and Rs. 245 for navigation canals and backwaters.

Communications.

Till recently Government alone were responsible for constructing and maintaining roads in the State. Within the past few years, however, private enterprise has voluntarily come forward to co-operate with Government in opening new lines of communication. There is a system of "ryots' roads" under which the roads are opened by the people themselves, the department merely advising alignment and constructing the necessary bridges and culverts. The roads if satisfactory are subsequently taken over and maintained by Government who assume the lands covered by the roads on payment of nominal compensation and record them as *poramboke*.

Ryots' Roads.

The expenditure incurred on buildings was Rs. 6·32 lakhs against Rs. 4·30 lakhs in the previous year. Of this a sum of Rs. 4·00 lakhs was spent on the construction of new buildings and special repairs and improvements to the existing ones, and the balance was spent on annual repairs and maintenance.

Buildings.

The expenditure incurred on protective irrigation works during the year under report was Rs. 1·58 lakh against Rs. 1·22 lakh in 1118. Of this a sum of Rs. 1·19 lakh was spent on the construction of new irrigation works and preservation of existing ones, and the balance on the maintenance of the existing sources of irrigation.

Irrigation—Protective.

The Kodayar irrigation system is the most important irrigation work in the State. The gross outlay on the work up to the end of the year was Rs. 88·21 lakhs and net outlay was Rs. 81·39 lakhs. The gross revenue from the project during the year was Rs. 2·01 lakhs and the net revenue was Rs. 0·32 lakh. A total length of 326·94 miles of irrigation channels was maintained within the system and the area of assessed lands which had the benefit of water from the Kodayar Reservoir during 1119 was 56,624 acres against 56,596 acres in 1118.

Productive Irrigation- The Kodayar Irrigation System.

Establishment.

The outlay on establishment during the year was Rs. 5·01 lakhs against Rs. 4·35 lakhs in 1118 and the cost of establishment was 11·7 per cent. on the gross outlay excluding that on capital works not charged to revenue against 14·9 per cent. in the previous year.

P. W. D. Workshops.

The P. W. D. Workshops undertake works for Government and also for private parties. The number of work orders for execution during 1119 was 2,711 and of these 1,998 orders were completed before the close of the year under report. The total value of supplies made by the Workshops during the year to other P. W. D. Divisions and departments and for private parties worked out to Rs. 5·86 lakhs.

P. W. D. Advisory Committee.

The P. W. D. Advisory Committee held two meetings. The members of the sub-committees travelled as usual to the different parts of the State to study at first hand the requirements of the various localities.

The Standing Committee for restoration of tanks and storage reservoirs also functioned throughout the year.

Maramath Works.

The Maramath Branch of the P. W. D. which attends to works connected with Devaswoms, *Oottupuras* (feeding houses), satroms and other charitable institutions was reconstituted during the year and placed under the charge of the two Sub Division Officers, one at Kottayam and the other at Trivandrum under the direct administrative control of the Chief Engineer. The expenditure incurred on account Government Maramath works during the year amounted to Rs. 1,12,583 and that on account of Devaswom Maramath works amounted to Rs. 66,172.

Water Works and Drainage.

At a capital cost of about Rs. 58 lakhs Government have provided the Trivandrum City with a protected water-supply which is one of the most complete and up-to-date water supply projects in India. The project is worked by Government through

the Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department and the Trivandrum Corporation makes an annual contribution towards the working expenses meeting the cost by levying a water tax at the rate of 3 per cent. on the annual rental value of all the buildings situated within its limits and from the metered rating from house connections and other miscellaneous water receipts. In point of chemical and bacteriological purity, safety and clarity, the water distributed from the Water Works stands comparison with the water in any other town supply in the world and is decidedly superior to the water distributed in many Indian towns, the standard of purity of water distributed being similar to that adopted by the Metropolitan Water Board, London for its supply. Samples of the filtrate and water from the street fountains are collected daily and examined in the laboratory. A total quantity of 387·886 million gallons of water was sent down for distribution during the year against 357·451 million gallons in 1118. The cost of maintenance and operation per 1,000 gallons of water in 1119 was chuckrams 7 and cash 12 against chuckrams 7 and cash 6 in the previous year. The rate charged for 1,000 gallons was chuckrams 21 (annas 11 and pies 9) if the supply was for domestic purposes and double this rate if the supply was for non-domestic purposes.

The number of street fountains during the year was 624 against 620 in the previous year. There were 2,349 meters in service in 1119 against 2,263 in the previous year.

The reservoir was overflowing the dam on all days of the year and the maximum level of water in the reservoir was 151·00 feet and the minimum level was 145·25 feet.

The gross receipts from the Willingdon Water Works for the year 1119 amounted to Rs. 1,56,529 and the cost of maintenance and operation amounted to Rs. 1,07,235.

Mofussil Water Works.

Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi Water Works at Alleppey was brought into service in 1115. The Alleppey Municipality collects the water tax and pays to Government the maintenance charges under special agreement with Government that half the capital cost of the project with 4½ per cent.

Alleppey Water Works.

interest will be repaid to Government in 35 equal instalments. The Municipality is making the annual payment under the agreement in addition to meeting the maintenance charges. Free supply of water through street fountains which was started after the inauguration of the scheme in 1115 was continued during the year 1119 also. The supply of good protected water in the town contributed much towards the prevention of the spreading of cholera.

Nagercoil Water Supply Scheme.

The project was nearly completed by the end of the previous year. Temporary supply of water to the low level area of the town was started from Vrischikam 1119 and fountain post connections in the high level area were in progress.

Shencottah Water Supply Scheme.

The installation of pumping plant, electric motors, venturimeters and the 10" hose pipe line between the pump house and the venturi meter house was completed. The erection of chlorionome plant was also completed during the year under report. The supply of water through the street taps was maintained in steady condition.

Trivandrum Drainage Scheme.

The laying of sewers was in progress throughout the year with the pipes available. The total length of sewers of various sizes laid till the end of the year was nearly 60 miles against nearly 59½ miles at the end of 1118. The man-holes, lamp holes and other masonry works in the portion of the sewers laid during the year were also constructed. House connections were given to the sewers already laid with syphon traps. The total number of house connections completed by the end of the year 1119 was 4,784. The expenditure incurred on the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme till the end of 1119, including investigation, was Rs. 24·20 lakhs.

Railways.

The total length of the railway line in the State is 98 miles excluding the portion of the Cochin-Shoranur railway running through the Travancore territory in the Alwaye Public Works Division.

The Quilon-Shencottah Section is worked under a guarantee in respect of interest on the capital spent on that Section by the British Government. The capital required for the Quilon-Trivandrum (Chakai) line was met by this Government while the Extension from Chakai to Trivandrum Central was constructed by the State and handed over to the South Indian Railway for working as part of the Quilon-Trivandrum (Chakai) Section.

The capital outlay up to the end of March 1944 was as follows:—

Shencottah-Quilon Section.	B. Rs.	139.80	lakhs.
Quilon-Trivandrum (old station at Chakai)	,,	50.86	,,
Chakai-Thambanur Extension ..	,,	21·53	,,

A sum of B. Rs. 6.44 lakhs out of the capital outlay of B. Rs. 27.96 lakhs under the Chakai-Thambanur Extension to the end of Karkatakam 1118 was written off the Chakai-Thambanur Extension accounts by debit to the P. W. D. in the year under review in accordance with the terms entered into with the South Indian Railway Administration for the working of the Chakai-Thambanur Extension as part of the Quilon-Trivandrum Section.

The capital expenditure for the year ended March 1944 on the Quilon-Trivandrum Section excluding the Chakai-Thambanur Extension was B. Rs. 3,007 (credit) against B. Rs. 1,19,436 (credit) in the previous year.

The working of the Travancore Railway during the year under review resulted in a gain of B. Rs. 7.01 lakhs including interest at 4 per cent on the capital of Quilon-Trivandum and Chakai-Thambanur Extension (*viz.*, B. Rs. 2,89,311) against B. Rs. 5·11 lakhs in 1118.

The working of the Travancore Railway was, consequent on the acquisition of the whole South Indian Railway system by the Government of India from 1st April 1944, taken up by them from that date.

The Financial Secretary to Government continued to represent Government in the South Indian Railway Advisory Committee Board.

Electrical Department.

Electrical Engineer to Government.	*Rajyasevapravina K. P. Padmanabha Menon, B. A., B. Sc. (Hons)., D. I. C., M. I. E. E., M. I. Mech. E., M. I. E.*

General.

The Department maintained steady progress during the year although the difficulties in the matter of obtaining supplies of material from abroad and from available sources in India continued to persist on account of the war. Extensions of supply lines were carried out during the year mainly for operations connected with food production and war industries. Power was made available at two more centres in the State making the total number of centres served 32.

The aggregate demand on the Government Electric Supply systems during the year was 10,070 K. W. with a total generation of 65·08 million units. The total number of consumers including the Aluminium Company and the Cochin Supply was 9,157. The total number of consumers in the Licensee's areas taking supply from the Government system was 1,735.

Some requisitions for supply of power for industrial purposes could not be met during the year owing to the shortage of power at the P. H. E. Project. The power position at the project is expected to improve with the availability of a fresh block of 3,000 K. W. of power by the middle of 1945.

As there was hardly any surplus power for release to meet civilian needs it was found necessary to postpone further supplies of power till supply from other sources became available. The Electricity (Emergency) Proclamation was therefore issued on the 22nd Kumbhom 1119 empowering the departmental authorities to restrict, regulate or refuse the supply and consumption of electrical energy.

The P. H. E. Project completed its fourth year of operation in Medom 1119. All the works comprising the first stage of the Project have been completed and are functioning satisfactorily. The Ramaswami Aiyar Head Works were inaugurated by Dewan Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar on the 12th February 1944. The second stage of operations made satisfactory progress during the year. In connection with the second stage of development of the scheme, sanction was obtained from the Government of India for the release of a 7,500 K. W. set, the connected switch gear and a third pipe line. But in view of the need to supply power to the large Fertilizer Industry which is proposed to be established and also in view of the further requirements of the Aluminium Factory and the Government of Cochin, negotiations were started with the Government of India to obtain sanction for the release of two more generating sets 7,500 K. W. with connected switch gear and also for the fourth pipe line. As a result of these negotiations sanction was obtained for the release of the fifth generating set (7,500 K. W. capacity) and also for the fourth pipe line.

P. H. E. Project.

The total generation of power during the year was 64·4 million units and the total peak load about 9,600 K. W. The capital outlay on the Project at the end of the year was Rs. 2·22 crores. The net revenue realised during the year amounted to Rs. 7·80 lakhs and the working expenses amounted to Rs. 7·77 lakhs.

In order to accelerate the food production drive the supply of power was further extended in the reclamation area of the Kottayam Division. An extent of about 8000 acres was utilised for paddy cultivation with the aid of electrically driven pumps. Lift irrigation in the paddy fields on the sides of the Periyar River was arranged in nine centres and 520 acres were irrigated.

As in the previous years, the supply in the capital, was fed partly from hydro-electric system and partly from the local thermal station. The total generation from the thermal plant during the year was about 7 lakhs units and the energy supplied from H. E. station amounted to 1·61 million units.

Electric Supply in the Capital.

The engines in the thermal plant were maintained very satisfactorily throughout the year notwithstanding the difficulty in securing spare parts.

There was a growing demand for house service connections and the demand was met to the extent possible having regard to the availability of service connection materials. During the year, 478 domestic consumers and 26 industrial consumers were connected up, making a total of 4,089 consumers at the end of the year. The supply to the City was maintained satisfactorily throughout the year.

Other Electric Supply Undertakings.

A few towns and villages in the State are supplied with electric power by private agencies who either make their own arrangements for the generation of power or purchase power in bulk from Government. Power from the P. H. E. Project was supplied to the K. D. H. P. Company distribution area in the High Ranges and to the Kottayam Electric Supply Agency (for the Kottayam town), while the supply of power to Nagercoil and Shencotta was undertaken by licensees who worked their own thermal plants. These agencies continued to supply power in their respective areas as in the previous year.

Trunk Telephones.

The All-State Trunk Telephone Scheme was completed and linked up with the general Trunk Telephone system of India in 1115. The demand for telephone connections was steadily on the increase and several applications had to be kept pending owing to the shortage of equipment. The linking of the towns of Chavara and Kayamcolam by a new line was effected during the year and this minimised the delay in putting through calls. Another important work taken up and completed during the year was the teleprinter line between the Reuter's office and the General Post Office.

The total length of trunk lines at the end of the year was 730 miles, the number of subscribers 1,003 and the number of public call offices 38, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 714, 979 and 37 respectively.

The capital outlay on the telephone till the end of the year was Rs. 13·05 lakhs and the net revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 1·08 lakh.

Radio and Broadcasting.

The Broadcasting House was completed during the year. Two studios, one for music, and the other for talk, were fitted out. In all, 1,185 possession licenses under the Wireless Telegraphy Act were issued during the year, of which 235 were new licenses. The expenditure on this scheme till the end of 1119 was Rs. 1·85 lakh.

CHAPTER XI.

COMMERCE

Trade.

Volume of Trade.

The prevailing war conditions have influenced the course of trade during the year under report. The most important factor which governed the volume of the export and import trade of Travancore during 1119 M. E. was the heavy rise in the price of almost all the articles that entered into the trade of the country. This general rise in prices together with the improvement in the import of articles like rice, paddy, sugar and textiles and the export of articles like cocoanut oil, coir, cashewnuts, betelnuts, cardamoms, rubber, tea and timber resulted in a striking increase in the volume of trade of the State. The total value of the import trade rose from Rs. 14·34 crores in 1118 to Rs. 23·89 crores in 1119 and that of exports from Rs. 16·54 crores to Rs. 25·52 crores. The balance of trade in favour of the State, however, fell from Rs. 2·20 crores in 1118 to Rs. 1·63 crores in 1119.

Carriage of Trade.

Of the total import trade, 5·47 per cent. was carried on by land, 26·26 per cent. by rail, 57·80 per cent. by backwater and 10·47 per cent. by sea. Of the total export trade, 6·81 per cent. was carried on by land, 23·31 per cent. by rail, 66·89 per cent. by backwater and 2·99 per cent. by sea. This fall in sea borne trade is a war time feature.

Imports.

Compared to the previous year, the import of almost all the chief items under merchandise such as food grains, cashewnuts, textiles, metals and ores, sugar, etc., recorded a slight improvement during the year. Considerable fall was noticed under the imports of mineral oils especially kerosene and petrol. This fall was due to war restrictions. The subjoined statement shows the quantity

and value of the most important articles imported during the years 1118 and 1119 :—

Articles.	Unit.	Quantity.		Value (in lakhs of B. Rs.)	
		1118	1119	1118	1119
Rice	Ton	109,828	116,558	241·35	372·36
Paddy	,,	5,774	20,647	6·10	34·79
Sugar and Sugar candy	,,	4,784	11,840	18·53	54·89
Kerosene	Gallon	4,534,046	4,070,914	52·09	49·16
Petrol	,,	1,585,087	1,045,644	30·45	21·39
Cashewnuts	Ton	7,203	17,704	14·29	56·70
Tobacco and preparations thereof	...	...	...	30·07	49·47
Textiles	...	...	...	167·28	357·31

Exports.

The exports of tea, cocoanuts and cocoanut products, betelnuts, cardamom, cashew-kernels, rubber and lemongrass oil showed remarkable improvement during the year. The other important articles of export like pepper, fish, hides and skins recorded a fall. The following statement shows the quantity and value of the important articles of export for the years 1118 and 1119 :—

Article.	Unit.	Quantity.		Value (in lakhs of B. Rs.)	
		1118	1119	1118	1119
Betelnuts	Candy of 500 lbs.	16,839	25,908	44·69	54·60
Pepper	,,	54,727	42,570	112·64	97·84
Cardamoms	Cwt.	13,037	25,541	22·30	28·10
Ginger	,,	124,253	142,873	66·59	54·29
Cashew-kernels	,,	60,791	169,147	26·84	101·76
Copra	,,	340,725	385,314	75·92	75·44
Cocoanut oil	,,	542,508	800,453	193·66	289·68
Coir	...	...	...	107·55	257·37
Tea	Lbs.	42,302,952	45,985,412	374·27	481·95
Rubber raw	,,	28,139,888	30,597,840	168·09	273·67
Lemongrass oil	,,	464,182	950,824	5·25	28·46
Ilmenite	Ton	5,404	89,047	1·39	16·61
Fish	Cwt.	247,813	233,690	23·08	62·15
Timber	...	...	...	26·72	63·17

CHAPTER XII.

MEDICAL RELIEF, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Medical Department.

Surgeon General. — *Mr. S. John, L. M. & S., L. R. C. S. E., L. R. F. P. & S., M. R. C. P., D. T. M. & H.*

System of Medical Aid.

The policy of Government has been to see that proper medical aid is placed within easy reach of all classes of people in the State.

Donations.

A very encouraging feature in the working of the Medical Department is the rapidly growing co-operation of the public in providing greater facilities in hospitals. Several donations were received from the public in recent years for the construction of operation theatres, maternity wards, pay wards, etc. Donations totalling Rs. 34,500 were received from the public during the year for the construction of maternity wards and pay wards. At the close of the year under review, 23 of the dispensaries in the State were held in buildings provided by the public.

Medical Institutions.

The number of Government medical institutions in the State rose from 111 in 1118 to 115 in 1119 comprising 32 hospitals, 79 dispensaries and 4 leprosy survey and treatment groups. The number of medical institutions receiving grant-in-aid was 23 as in the previous year.

Medical Officers.

The permanent professional staff of the department during the year consisted of the Surgeon General, 5 Surgeons, 17 Deputy Surgeons, 45 Assistant Surgeons, 89 Sub Assistant Surgeons and 16 Honorary House Surgeons.

During the year 10 medical officers from the department accepted emergency commissions in the Indian Army Medical Corps and 3 medical officers accompanied the Labour Units for Assam. There was a paucity of qualified medical men to take the place of those who thus left the department on war service.

The following statement shows the extent of medical relief afforded during 1118 and 1119 :—

Medical Relief.

Particulars.	1118.	1119.
Number of in-patients treated	96,753	98,709
Number of out-patients treated	2,096,994	2,165,928
Daily average of in and out-patients	18,684	19,356
Number of beds available	4,325	4,426
Percentage of mortality	4·53	4·16
Number of surgical operations	113,605	93,655
Post-mortem examinations-Medico-legal	677	715
Do. Pathological	29	28

The General Hospital, Trivandrum ranked foremost in the matter of out-patient attendance, the number being 79,918. The Fort Hospital, Trivandrum, the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum and the Victoria Hospital, Quilon followed next in order with an attendance of 66,038 ; 62,450 and 62,170 respectively. In regard to in-patient attendance also the General Hospital, Trivandrum stood first with 14,023 patients, followed by the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum (12,337), the Victoria Hospital, Quilon (6,980) and the Government Hospital, Peroorkada (6,169).

The department bestowed particular attention on the treatment and care of expectant mothers and mothers with infants.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

One hundred and six midwives were attached to the Medical Department during the year and 11,043 labour cases were attended to by them showing an average of 104·17 cases per midwife.

There were 35 European nursing sisters, 8 Indian nursing sisters, 1 staff nurse, 98 trained nurses and 40 sick nurses on

Nursing staff.

the nursing staff of the department at the close of the year.

Nursing Class.

Thirty-three girls were undergoing the second year of training in the nursing class attached to the General Hospital at Trivandrum.

Classes for the training of compounders, midwives and dhais.

During the year a few classes were opened for the training of compounders, midwives and dhais. These classes were attached to the various hospitals in the State. In all 23 candidates underwent training in compounding and 40 in midwifery while 21 candidates were given training in the classes for dhais.

Anti-rabic treatment.

Anti-rabic treatment was given at 8 centres; seven of these being in the mofussil.

General Hospital, Trivandrum.

The General Hospital, Trivandrum is the premier hospital in the State where the most up-to-date systems of treatment and appliances are available.

The number of surgical operations performed in this hospital rose from 13,044 in 1118 to 17,035 in 1119 while the percentage of mortality among the operated cases fell to 0·45 from 0·59 in 1118.

In the X-Ray and Electro-Therapeutic section of the hospital 2,409 patients were examined and treated against 2,389 in the previous year.

The Dental section treated 10,922 patients against 10,435 in 1118 and the Ear, Nose and Throat section treated 3,414 patients against 2,824 in the previous year. The number of patients treated in the Radium Ward was 407 against 286 in 1118. The number of cases examined in the Clinical Laboratory was 31,084 against 35,794 in the previous year.

Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum.

The number of in-patients treated in this hospital fell from 12,625 in 1118 to 12,337 in 1119 while the number of out-patients rose from 57,280 to 62,450. Obstetric and gynaecological cases numbered 3,146 and 13,640 respectively. The number of surgical operations performed in the hospital was 9,600 against 10,489 in 1118, the mortality among operated cases being 0·1 per cent.

The number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the Ophthalmic Hospital increased from 1,851 and 32,700 in 1118 to 2,581 and 42,605 respectively in 1119. The number of surgical operations performed also rose from 1,551 in 1118 to 1,650 in 1119.

Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.

The number of patients treated in the Hospital for Mental Diseases during the year was 223 of whom 17 were cured, 9 improved, 2 were discharged without improvement and 31 died. Thus there were 164 patients in the hospital at the close of the year.

Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum.

The Leper Colony is not only an asylum for lepers but also a hospital where the patients are treated medically. In order to make the atmosphere of the colony wholesome and congenial to the inmates, facilities are provided for their recreation, education and religious worship. 939 in-patients were treated in the hospital during the year. In the case of 21 patients the disease was arrested; 38 patients improved while 379 patients did not improve and 72 died. The number of patients in the hospital at the end of the year was 429 against 350 at the end of the previous year.

The Leper Colony, Noornad.

The number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the Tuberculosis Hospital rose from 235 and 4,718 in 1118 to 282 and 7,760 in 1119. Surgical operations performed in the hospital also rose from 2,712 in 1118 to 3,766 in 1119.

Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil.

The receipts of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 49,250 and the expenditure was Rs. 13·89 lakhs.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Ayurveda Department.

Honorary Director. — *Vaidyasastranipuna L. A. Ravi Varma, M. B. & C. M. (Madras), D. O. M. S. (London) (From 1-1-1119 to 22-1-1119; and from 1-5-1119 to the end of the year) Mr. C. N. Narayanan Moose (From 23-1-1119 to 29-4-119).*

General.

An Ayurveda *Patasala* (school) was first established in 1065 M. E. (1889 A. D.) and a system of grant-in-aid to qualified *vaidyans* was also sanctioned. In 1093 M. E. (1917-1918 A. D.) the present Ayurveda Department was constituted; the curricula of studies in Ayurveda Schools were revised on a scientific basis to suit modern requirements and an Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary was established at Trivandrum. The Ayurveda *Patasala* was subsequently raised to the status of a college.

Ayurveda Hospitals and Dispensaries.

During the year under report there were two Government Ayurveda Hospitals, viz., at Trivandrum and Neyyattinkara and and four private hospitals receiving grant-in-aid. The temporary Ayurvedic Dispensary at Ooruttambalam for the treatment of malaria was continued during the year.

Vaidyasalas.

One hundred and sixty four grant-in-aid Vaidyasalas functioned in the various parts of the State during 1119. Of these 21 were *Vishavaidyasalas* (for the treatment of poison), 2 for *Balachikilsa*, 1 for *Marmachikilsa*, 2 for eye treatment and the rest for general diseases.

Temporary Vaidyasalas.

As in the previous years, temporary Vaidyasalas were opened at seven places in connection with festivals.

Relief.

The total number of patients treated in the various Ayurvedic institutions in the State was distributed as follows:—

Institutions.		1118	1119
Government Ayurveda Hospital	In-patients	537	596
	Out-patients	76,581	80,664
	Total	77,118	81,260
Sachivottama Shashtiabdapurthi Memorial Ayurveda Hospital at Neyyattinkara	In-patients	20	112
	Out-patients	5,399	33,239
	Total	5,419	33,351
Temporary Dispensary at Oorut-tambalam,		17,648	14,752
Grant-in-aid hospitals		54,698	55,792
Do. vaidyasalas		539,065	545,732
Temporary vaidyasalas		15,909	17,736

The number of patients treated in this hospital rose from 77,118 in 1118 to 81,260 in 1119, of which 596 were in-patients.

Government Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum.

The average daily attendance of patients including repetitions was 706 against 636 in 1118. The average duration of treatment undergone by each patient was 20·5 days against 23·5 in 1118 and the average daily cost of dieting per head was chs. 7 c. 15 against chs. 7 c. 4 in 1118.

The number of patients treated in the *Marmachikilsa* ward for fractures, dislocation of bones, etc., was 3,946 against 4,242 in 1118 and the number of those subjected to *Panchakarma* forms of treatment was 460 against 396 in the previous year.

During the year two special courses were started for the training of Ayurvedic Nurses and Pharmacists (Compounders).

Training of Ayurvedic Nurses and Compounders.

The duration of the nursing course is two years of training followed by a probationary course of one year and that of the pharmacists' course is two years. The students admitted to these courses underwent training in the Government Ayurveda Hospital at Trivandrum,

Government Ayurveda Pharmacy.

The medicines required for the Government Ayurveda Hospitals and dispensaries and the several temporary Vaidyasalas were prepared in the Government Ayurveda Pharmacy. Medicines were also prepared for sale to the public. The students of the Ayurveda College and the students of the pharmacists' course were given training in the Pharmacy in the preparation of medicines and the identification of drugs.

Ayurveda College.

The Ayurveda College conducted courses for the Vaidyasastri and the Vaidyakalanidhi examinations, the former-representing the high school course extending to three years and the latter representing the college course extending to two years. The strength of the College rose from 143 in 1118 to 166 in 1119, of which 13 were females. Twenty-nine scholarships amounting to Rs. 1,088 were awarded to the students of the various classes during the year. Two allopathic doctors were appointed as full-time lecturers in modern anatomy and physiology, and the students were given training in dissection of dead bodies, in laboratory methods, hygiene and physiology.

The work of re-editing Ayurvedic text-books was started [illegible] ppointed for the purpose.

The organisation of a Central Herbarium and a garden of living botanical specimens to give training to the students of the Ayurveda College, was sanctioned.

Aided and Recognised Ayurveda High Schools.

There were 6 aided and 4 recognised Ayurveda high schools till Medom 1119 when 3 of the aided schools were stopped so that at the end of the year under report there were only 3 aided and 4 recognised high schools.

Public Examinations in Ayurveda.

The number of candidates including private candidates who appeared for the public examinations conducted by Government in Ayurveda was 181 of which 93 came out successful.

Expenditure.

The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 1,05,268 against Rs. 93,966 in the previous year.

Public Health Department.

Director of Public Health. *Rajyasevanirata Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., D. P. H., (Lond.), Dr. P. H., F. R. S. (Trop.), M. and H., F. R. I. P. H.*

General.

The State is divided into three public health districts *viz.*, northern, central and southern, with Kottayam, Quilon and Neyyattinkara as the respective headquarters, each district being in the charge of a District Health Officer. The work of the department consists in the registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, vaccination, plague and malaria control measures, medical entomology, maternity and child welfare work, public health education and rural sanitation.

Taluk Health Organisations.

The Taluk Health Organisation which was confined to the taluks of Thovala, Agastiswaram, Kalkulam, Vilavancode and Shencottah was extended on a State-wide basis with effect from the 10th Medom 1119. This measure raised the total number of sanitary circles from twelve to thirty, providing thereby a sanitary circle for every taluk. These Taluk Health Organisations cater to the public health needs of every locality in the State; and they have also facilitated the prevention and control of epidemics and the collection of accurate vital statistics.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births registered in the State fell from 122,174 in 1118 to 119,719 in 1119. Of these 62,010 were males and 57,709 females, the ratio of male births to 100 female births being 107·45 against 105·51 in the previous year. The birth rate calculated on the census population was 19·72 per mille against 20·13 in the previous year. There were 800 still births against 1,044 in the previous year, the proportion of still births to 1,000 live births being 6·68 against 8·55 in 1118.

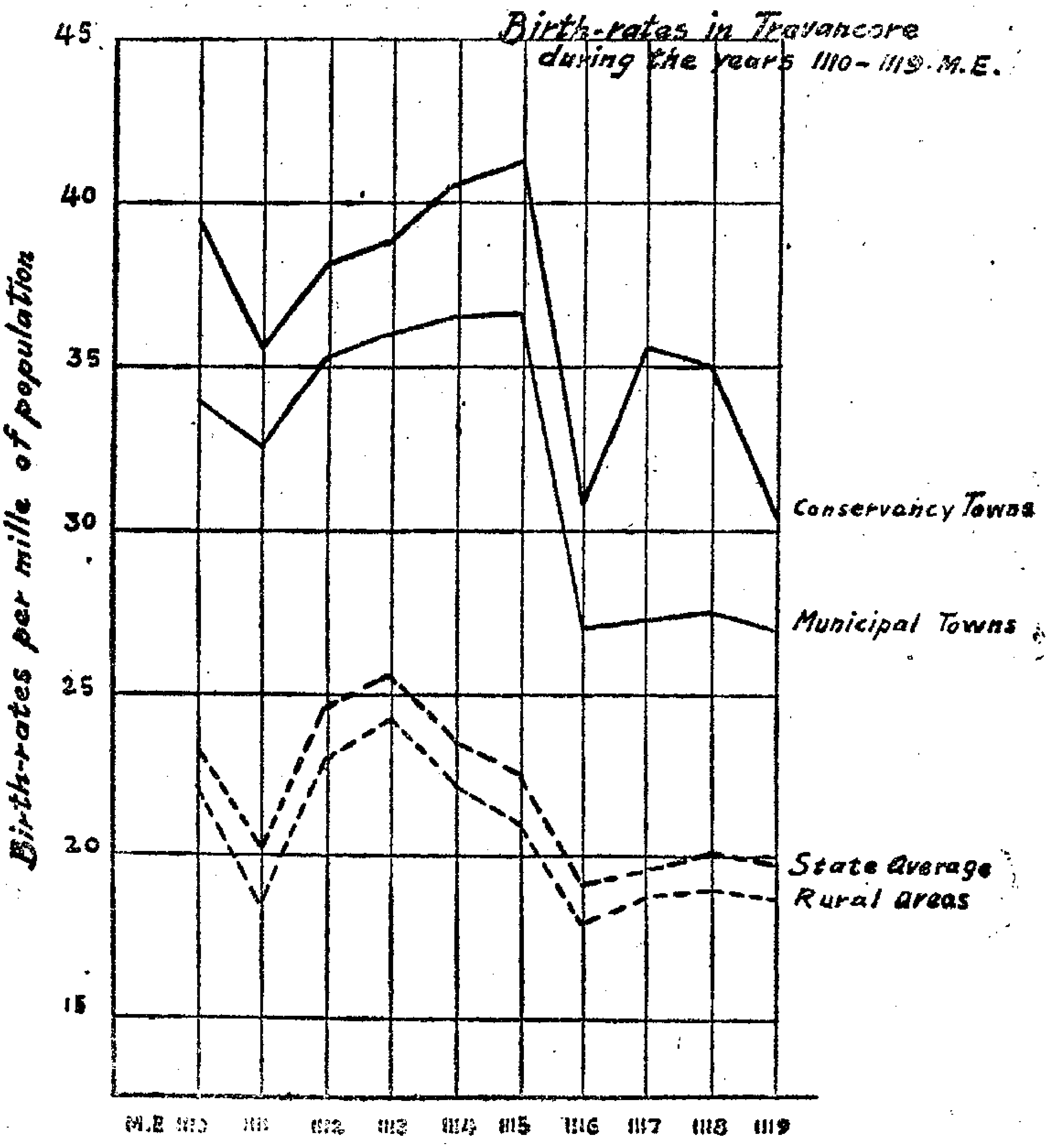
The number of deaths rose from 80,637 in 1118 to 85,253 in 1119 of which 43,888 were males and 41,365 females, the ratio of male deaths to 100 female deaths being 106·1 against 104·23 in 1118. The death rate for 1119 was 14·04 per mille of the census population and 13·35 per mille of the estimated population for the year.

There was a fall in the number of infant deaths from 8,658 in 1118 to 8,245 in 1119, the infant mortality rate being 68·87 per 1,000 live births as against 70·86 in the previous year.

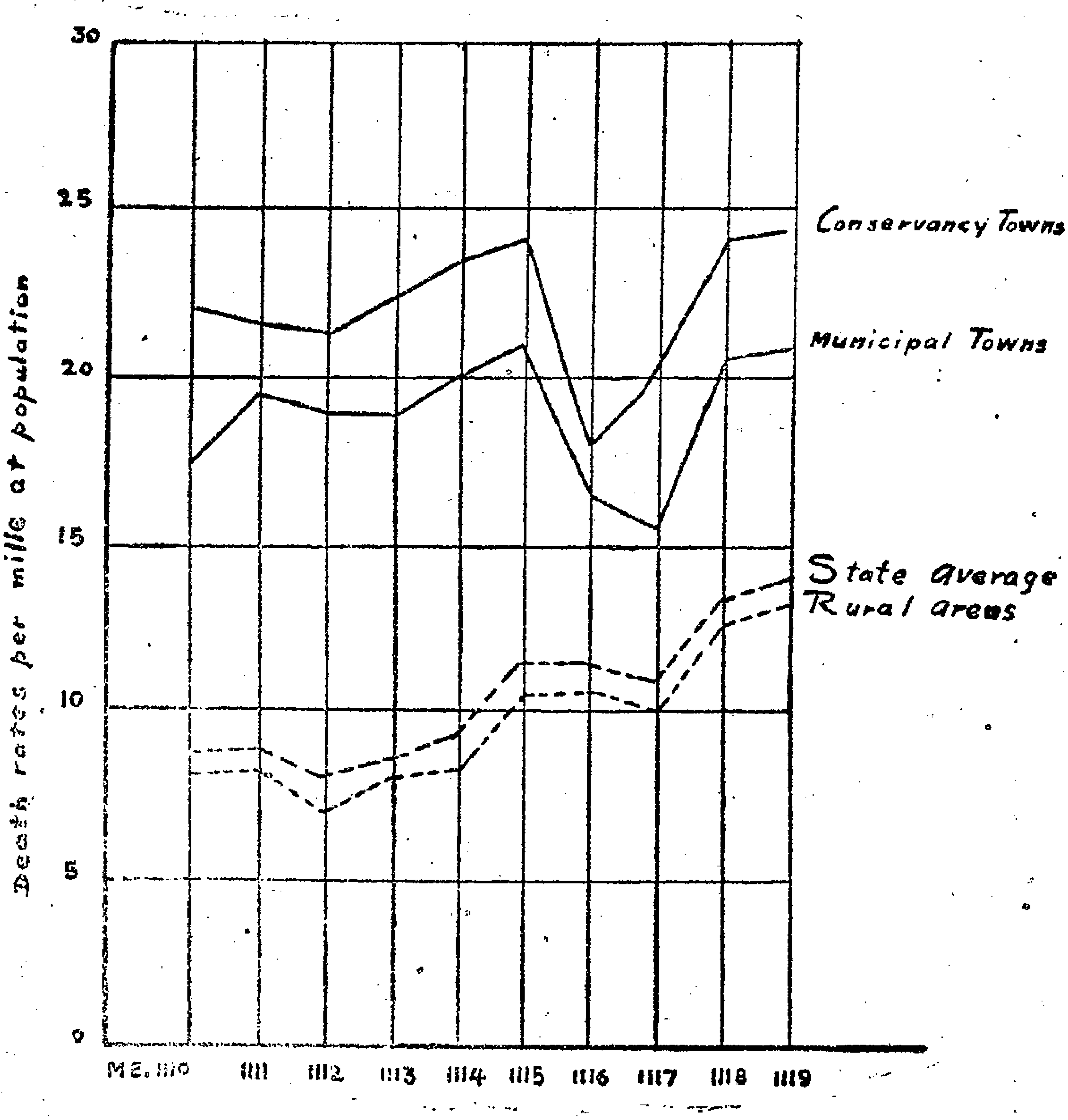
The increase in population (excess of births over deaths) worked out from the vital statistics recorded in 1119 was 34,466 against 41,537 in 1118.

Diseases.

The cholera epidemic which had broken out by the middle of 1118 subsided by the middle of 1119, though stray cases were reported even as late as in the month of Meenam. There was an increase in the prevalence of smallpox as compared with the previous year, Parur taluk and Parur municipal town being the worst-affected areas. Three cases of plague occurred at Alleppey and one case at Mavelikara. But on account of the timely adoption of preventive measures the disease did not spread.


Birth-rates in Travancore
during the years 1110-1119 M.E.
Birth-rates per mille of population
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
Conservancy Towns
Municipal Towns
State average
Rural areas
M.E
1115
1116
1117
1118
1119

Death rates in Travancore during the years 1110-1119. ME.



The following statement compares the number of deaths in 1118 and 1119 due to principal diseases:—

	Deaths.	
	1118	1119
Cholera	4,756	1,849
Smallpox	100	218
Plague	2	2
Typhoid	213	344
Other fevers	16,388	16,540
Bowel diseases	9,321	9,944
Diabetes and Carbuncle	2,674	3,903
Respiratory diseases	4,412	5,960
Injuries	983	1,097
Other causes	41,788	45,396
Total ..	80,637	85,253

There were 2,963 attacks and 1,849 deaths from cholera during the year as against 6,837 attacks and 4,756 deaths in 1118.

Cholera.

All the preventive measures organised in 1118, such as intensive inoculation campaigns, disinfection work, special sanitary precautions connected with fairs and festivals and propaganda on cholera prevention were continued in toto till the epidemic completely abated towards the commencement of the third quarter of the year. The departmental staff performed altogether 383,998 cholera inoculations during the year.

Smallpox and Vaccination.

There were 677 attacks and 218 deaths from smallpox in the year as against 349 attacks and 100 deaths in the previous year. Vaccination work was intensified in all the affected areas and the situation was soon brought under control. The intensive vaccination campaign inaugurated in 1109 was continued during the year under report. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year was 436,633 of which 91,759 were primary and 344,874 were re-vaccinations. The success rates in respect of primary and re-vaccinations in the rural areas were 92·18 per cent and 52·73 per cent respectively.

Plague.

Four cases of plague occurred during the year of which two were fatal. The epidemic made its appearance at Alleppey but as a result of the intensive control measures adopted the outbreak was effectively checked. Plague control measures were continued at Munnar and Quilon as in the previous year.

Typhoid.

There were 1,223 attacks and 344 deaths from typhoid during the year. The department conducted 5,763 inoculations. Other preventive measures such as disinfection and chlorination of water supplies were also adopted.

Mosquito Control.

Mosquito control measures were carried on successfully in the endemic malarial areas of South Travancore in spite of the difficulty of obtaining larvicides. Mosquito control measures were also carried out in the municipal towns of Alleppey, Quilon, Kottayam, Neyyattinkara and in the City of Trivandrum.

Towards the close of the year the medical officer in charge of the Neyyattinkara Health Unit was deputed for training in Malariology in the Malaria Institute of India at Delhi.

Filariasis Investigation and Control.

The chief item of control work *viz.*, Pistia clearance was carried out over a total area of 364·35 acres of water surface consisting of 1,702 ponds, 431 drains and 54 fields. The research section also carried on its usual investigations, *viz.*, the collection and examination of adult mosquitoes and the study of the conditions of breeding of different kinds of mosquitoes with particular reference to Mansonioides.

Health Unit, Neyyattinkara.

The Health Unit, Neyyattinkara is an all-comprehensive rural health organisation covering an area of 40 square miles and it serves also as a demonstration and training centre for health workers. The activities of the Health Unit consisted of registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, maternity and child welfare work, school medical inspection, rural sanitation and public health education. As in the previous year the public health of the Unit was very satisfactory. Good progress was also maintained in the various activities of the Unit in spite of the fact that there had to be frequent dislocations of staff in connection with anti-cholera measures outside the Unit. The general death rate was 9·9 per mille against 10·0 in the previous year.

The control of cholera occupied the entire attention of the Unit during the first four months of the year and 24,427 anti-cholera inoculations were performed. There were only 104 attacks and 49 deaths from cholera in the Health Unit area.

Maternity and child welfare work of the Unit was considerably dislocated by the diversion of the entire staff for anti-cholera work during the first four months of the year. Of the total births 38·6 per cent were attended to by the midwives attached to the Health Unit as against 41·1 in the previous year. The midwives attached to the Unit registered 1,706 pregnant women during the year. The number of infant deaths was 121 against 185 in 1118.

723 school children were examined in the area of whom 290 were found to have defects. As in the previous years particular

attention was also bestowed on rural sanitation and health education.

Rural maternity and child welfare work in the State was carried on in the various centres established for the purpose. To the twenty maternity and child welfare centres that existed previously three were added during the year. The midwives attached to these centres paid home visits, registered ante-natal cases, conducted urine examinations, rendered midwifery aid and gave hygienic advice. The midwives made 107,048 home visits during the year. The total number of pregnant women registered by them was 6,368 against 4,001 in 1118 and the number of deliveries attended to was 2,473 against 1,938 in the previous year.

Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

Towards the close of the year, under the auspices of the Friends' Ambulance Unit, Calcutta, milk canteens were started in several rural and urban areas in the State for the distribution of condensed milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years. These supplies of milk came from private donors of the Empire countries and the United States for free distribution.

The object of the health education section of the department is to enlist the co-operation of the public in the successful conduct of the various activities of the department and to arouse in the people a sense of their responsibility in the matter of preservation and promotion of public health. The total number of lectures and group talks on public health subjects given was 7,755 to an estimated audience of 402,000 persons against 3,923 talks to 318,000 persons in 1118. About 10,000 copies of popular health literature on various subjects were also distributed. Particular attention was bestowed on extending the benefits of the health education work to rural populations and to schools.

Public Health Education.

A vacation course in hygiene for teachers of the primary and middle schools was held at Nagercoil for a fortnight. Four health exhibitions and three health conferences were held during the year.

The principal activities under rural sanitation were sinking of new wells, repairs, cleaning and disinfection of existing wells; street lighting and sweeping, sanitation of markets and centres of fairs and festivals installation of sanitary privies and control measures against epidemics. 196 markets were inspected during the year and particular attention was paid to their proper sanitary maintenance. Sanitary arrangements were also made in connection with important fairs and festivals which numbered 49 during the year. 251 tanks and 15,950 wells were disinfected and 24 wells were repaired, cleaned and improved during the year. The number of bore-hole latrines constructed was 685 against 356 in the previous year.

Rural Sanitation.

The receipts of the department for the year amounted to Rs 11,581 and the expenditure to Rs 4·51 lakhs.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Medical Council.

In order to regulate the practice of medicine and to prevent charlatanism and fraud, the Travancore Medical Practitioners' Act (Act VII of 1119) was passed during the year. This Act is unique in that it contains provisions for the registration of practitioners under all systems of medicine.

The Travancore Medical Council constituted under this Act was inaugurated on the 12th June 1944 (30th Edavam 1119) by the Dewan. The Council consists of 17 members with the following distribution of representatives:—

Allopathy	9 members.
Ayurveda	4 „
Siddha	1 member.
Homeopathy	1 „
Dentistry	1 „
Unani	1 „

Out of 8,509 applicants for registration during the year, 380 had recognised qualifications in the allopathic system, 706 in the Ayurvedic system and 3 in dentistry. The following statement

shows the number of applicants who have no recognised qualifications :—

Allopathy	592	applicants.
Ayurveda	4,510	"
Siddha	1,218	"
Dentistry	175	"
Homeopathy	882	"
Unani	43	"

The work of registration was not yet complete at the end of the year. The applications for registration were being scrutinised by a Registration Committee containing the representatives of every system of medicine.

CHAPTER XIII.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Historical Survey.

From very early times, the village school master, styled the *Asan*, imparted education of a rudimentary character in Malayalam or Tamil. He was remunerated by the people themselves. The principal subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic and the elements of astronomy necessary for the simple calculations required for domestic rituals and for determining the chief periods of agricultural operations. The old village schools taught boys and girls together. The State's direct activity in the field of education began over a century ago. The duty of the State to impart public instruction was recognised so long ago as 992 M. E. (1817 A. D.) when Her Highness Rani Gouri Parvathi Bayi issued a rescript in which Her Highness resolved "that the State should defray the entire cost of the education of its people in order that there might be no backwardness in the spread of enlightenment among them, that by diffusion of education they might become better subjects and public servants and that the reputation of the State might be advanced thereby." The pioneers of English education in the country were Christian Missionaries who opened two English schools, one at Kottayam and the other at Nagercoil in the years 1816-19 and they were given substantial aid from the Government in the shape of grants of land. The first Government English School was started in 1834 at Trivandrum and this institution slowly and steadily developed into the Maharaja's high school and college. An English school for girls was opened at Trivandrum in 1863 by the Zenana Mission and next year was opened the Maharaja's English High School for girls which has since developed into a college for women. The first Normal School was founded in 1885 and it developed in 1911 into the Training College. A Sanskrit school was opened in 1889

which subsequently developed into the Sanskrit College. The first Director of Public Instruction was appointed in 1084 M. E. (1909 A. D.) and this was followed in the next year by the promulgation of the Education and Inspection Codes, which marked the inauguration of the existing educational system and policy. The University of Travancore was established by Act I of 1113 M. E. promulgated by His Highness the Maharaja Sri Chitra Tirunal on the 1st November 1937. The University has made adequate provision for pure academic studies of the highest standard and the pursuit of knowledge in all the various branches, the distinctive characteristic of this University being the emphasis laid on technological studies, scientific research and the promotion of indigenous art and culture.

Educational System.

The educational system of Travancore consists of three important branches, *viz.*, the Malayalam and Tamil schools, the English schools and the colleges. There are also institutions for the training of teachers, special schools for the teaching of Sanskrit and technical schools for giving vocational instruction. Malayalam and Tamil Schools are of three classes, *viz.*, primary schools, middle schools and high schools. Primary Schools teach up to class IV, the course of instruction being confined mainly to reading, writing, elementary arithmetic and simple lessons in history and geography. In girls' schools special attention is paid to singing, needle work and domestic economy. Primary education is free throughout the State. Malayalam and Tamil Middle schools teach up to class VII and high schools to class IX. At the end of the primary course, the pupil either pursues studies in the Malayalam and Tamil middle and high schools or joins the preparatory class in the English middle schools. English middle schools teach up to Form III and English high schools consist of all or any of the forms IV, V and VI. Facilities are provided for the admission of pupils, with sufficient knowledge of English, from Malayalam and Tamil middle schools, to English Middle school, English being an optional second language in Malayalam and Tamil middle schools. The Malayalam and Tamil school leaving certificate issued to candidates who pass

class VII confers eligibility for entertainment in the subordinate ranks of the public service. Similarly, the English school leaving certificate gives eligibility to University courses of study and to the public service. On the English, Malayalam and Tamil branches, except at the primary standard, there are separate schools for boys and girls with practically the same course of instruction. All primary schools except those for Muslim girls are mixed schools for boys and girls and co-education is adopted as the departmental policy for all primary schools. In the higher classes and forms too, co-education is allowed in places where separate schools or colleges for girls are not available. Girls were paying only half the rates of fees prescribed for boys in schools and colleges till 1107. From that year full rates began to be realised from girl students in colleges and three-fourths of the rates from girl pupils in schools. A notable feature in the domain of education is the part played by private enterprise. There are institutions of all grades from the lowest primary standard to the highest college course, run by private agencies. These agencies share with the Government the task of public instruction and receive substantial grants-in-aid from Government. The expenditure incurred by Government in 1119 on account of grants-in-aid to private educational institutions amounted to Rs. 12·79 lakhs.

Educational Policy.

In the matter of education, the Government have always pursued a liberal and progressive policy, and the remarkable advance made by Travancore during the past few decades which has brought the State to the forefront of educated India, has been due to their sedulous and fostering care. As regards primary education, its utmost importance has always been recognised and everything practicable is being done to make it universal. Consistently with the educational policy of the State, the education of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to pupils belonging to such communities. Special schools are also provided for the benefit of certain communities like the Kshatriyas and Malayala Brahmins who still show

reluctance to send their children to school if there are no separate schools for them. Including the Government grant of Rs. 9·35 lakhs to the Travancore University, the total expenditure on Education incurred by Government in 1119 amounted to Rs. 60·42 lakhs.

The University of Travancore.

General.

A two year diploma course in shorthand and typewriting was started during the year under report. A new group of optional subjects for the B. A. course—Tamil and Early South Indian History—was introduced in the University College. In order to bring the science course and examination for the Intermediate students into line with those in other Universities, the ordinances were revised so as to provide practical tests in science subjects. The M. L. Degree Examination was held for the first time in June, 1944.

The University continued to contribute both officers and men for the defence services. During the year under report, the Government of India sanctioned the opening of an Indian Air Training Corps Unit in this University. This course provides pre-service training to candidates desirous of joining the Indian Air Force. Towards the close of the year, courses of study in military science were introduced in the University.

Institutions and Strength.

Under the administrative control of the University there are six Government Colleges in Trivandrum besides the Institute of Textile Technology. There are four private colleges in the mofussil admitted to the privileges of the University. The number of students studying in the various institutions

was 4,392 as against 4,193 in the previous year. The following table shows the number of students in the several institutions :—

	Strength.	
His Highness the Maharaja's University College	1,394	*(213)
Do. College for Women	420	(420)
Do. Training College	79	(25)
Do. Law College	173	(6)
Do. Sanskrit College	71	(5)
College of Engineering	248	...
Institute of Textile Technology	62	(1)
Diploma Course in Shorthand and Typewriting	17	(4)
St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry	856	...
Union Christian College, Alwaye	417	(70)
C. M. S. College, Kottayam	383	(116)
Scott Christian College, Nagercoil	272	(24)

*(The figures in brackets indicate the number of women students.)

Of the total strength 884 were women. The strength of the Government institutions alone was 2,464.

Convocation.

The Fifth Convocation of the University was held on the 27th October 1943. His Highness the Chancellor presided over the Convocation. The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon Sir Maurice Gwyer, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, and the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred on *Rajyasevapravina* C. V. Chandrasekharan, Pro-Vice Chancellor. The Elaya Raja took his B. A. Degree at this Convocation. In the unavoidable absence of Sir B. L. Mitter, who had agreed to address the graduates, his Convocation address was read by Mr. H. C. Papworth, Professor of English (now Pro-Vice Chancellor).

The Central Research Institute.

Two meetings of the Council of Research were held during the year. Experiments on improved methods of salt manufacture were continued during the year. As a result of these experiments it was found that salt of 98·8 per cent purity could be produced in the salt pans. Research work on monozite and ilmenite was also continued. In connection with the research work on the retting of cocoanut husk, weekly samples of water from three typical retting grounds were collected and analysed. The work on the restoration of spoilt fibre yielded positive results and the restored fibre was found to retain its colour for more than a year. Analysis of charcoal of different kinds was conducted and it was found that with the type of producer used, casuarina gave the best results. The chemical analysis of a few indigenous drugs was completed during the year. The production of agar-agar from Gracillaria weeds was continued. The local product was used in the Public Health Laboratory for the manufacture of cholera vaccine. Some supplies were also made to the Director of Public Health, Bengal. Soil samples from five pakuthies in the Kalkulam taluk were collected and analysed. At the request of the Director of Agriculture, the soil of Kaipuzha in the Kottayam taluk was analysed to find out the cause of failure of paddy crops there. As supplies of aluminium sulphate required for the clarification of water in the Willingdon Water Works were not available, the use of concentrated bitterns from the salt pans as coagulant was suggested. After several tests it was found satisfactory. The effects of food shortage on health were studied in respect of new born babies, children and adults. A fall in average weight was reported in all categories. The production of shark liver oil by the Department of Marine Biology was extended to meet the demands of the Government of India. 2,807 gallons of shark liver oil were manufactured during the year. A cheap method of decolourising the oil without loss of its vitamin contents was devised by a research student.

Another research student was selected by the Government of India as one of the Indian Exchange Research Scholars for study in China. He is now working on soil science in the University of Chungking.

The medical examination of the first and third year students was conducted as usual. The total number of students examined was 2,330 as against 1,993 in 1118. 33·6 per cent of the men students and 20·2 per cent of the women students were found to be suffering from some defect. The system of compulsory physical instruction for the Intermediate classes worked satisfactorily. The various athletic clubs were active. The University won the South Zone Inter-University Football Tournament. The Volley Ball team won the Championship Trophy at the Madras Provincial Olympic Tournament. The Cricket Club won the runner-up cup in the Kerala Cricket Tournament at Ernakulam. The Inter-Collegiate Athletic Meet was held in January 1944. The Director of Yogic Physical Culture continued to hold regular classes. Graded courses of exercises were prescribed and the records of the health of students show that these exercises have special curative value in several cases.

Physical Education and the University Officers' Training & Labour Corps.

As the name of the University Training Corps in other Universities was changed to Officers Training Corps, the name of the Travancore University Labour Corps was changed to "Travancore University Officers' Training and Labour Corps". The Corps had a strength of 200 during the year. The annual camp of the training corps was held at Cantonment barracks. His Highness the Maharaja, Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps and the Elaya Raja, Colonel, were graciously pleased to visit the camp. During the camp senior cadets and non-commissioned officers were given firing practice at Mukkunnimalai.

Technical Training Scheme.

The Training Centre at the College of Engineering continued to work satisfactorily. The sanctioned strength of the centre was 282. It is worthy of mention that in view of the high standard of training imparted at this centre it was selected for holding refresher courses for the benefit of Instructors employed at various centres. Owing to reduced demand from the Services, the Training Centre at the Institute of Textile Technology was closed about the middle of the year.

Department of Publications.

A glossary of terms in education was published during the year. The printing of an illustrated Malayalam book on Anthropology was completed.

Education Department.

Director of Public Instruction. *Mr. A. Gopala Menon, M. A., B. Com.*

Progress of Education-General Statistics.

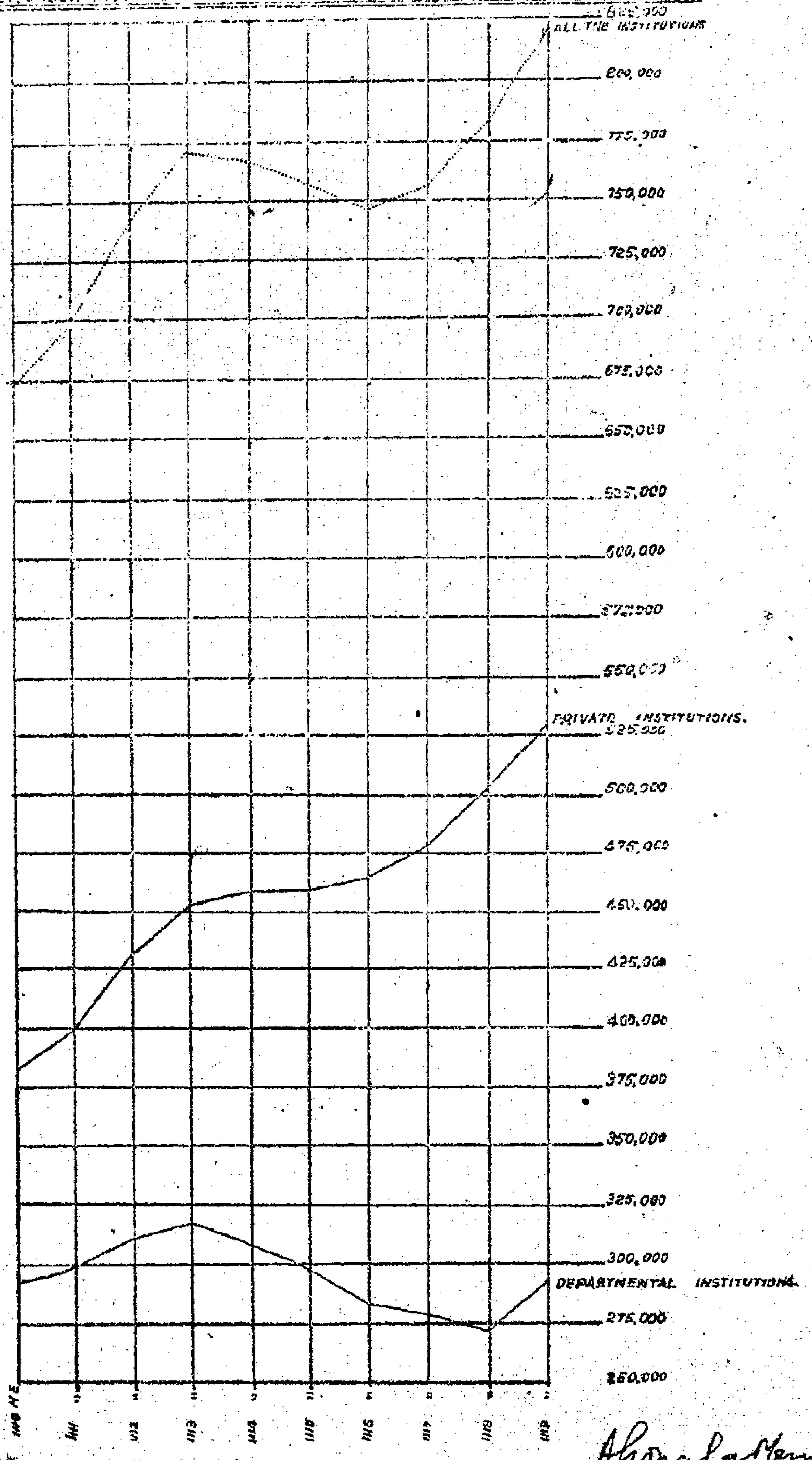
There were during the year 3,709 recognised schools under the control of the Education Department with 821,840 pupils under instruction as against 3,752 schools and 776,825 pupils in 1118. Of the total number of schools, 1,040 were departmental and 2,669 private, the corresponding figures for 1118 being 1,038 and 2,714. The decrease in the number of private schools was due to the amalgamation and closure of overlapping institutions and the withdrawal of recognition of inefficient ones. Of the total number of pupils under instruction during the year, 471,698 were boys and 350,142 were girls. The percentage of male scholars to the male population was 15·5 and that of female scholars to the female population was 11·5 as compared with 14·7 and 10·8 respectively in the previous year.

English Schools.

The number of English schools of all grades in the State rose from 328 in 1118 to 331 in 1119 and their strength from 86,574 to 105,947. Improvement in the economic condition of farmers, householders, traders and labourers was the reason for the increase in the number of pupils under instruction. The following comparative statement gives figures for the different grades of schools for the years 1118 and 1119 :—

EDUCATION.

NUMBER UNDER INSTRUCTION IN DEPARTMENTAL AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.



A. Gopala Menon

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Class, grade and management.	1118		1119	
	No. of schools.	Strength.	No. of schools.	Strength.
Departmental English High Schools for Boys.	26	13,162	26	15,912
Do. Do. for Girls.	3	1,474	3	1,597
Do. English Middle Schools for Boys	11	1,848	11	2,652
Do. Do. for Girls	4	480	4	683
Private English High Schools for Boys	84	34,483	85	41,590
Do. Do. for Girls	22	6,776	22	7,952
Do. English Middle Schools for Boys	157	[illegible],741	158	32,412
Do. Do. for Girls	21	2,610	22	3,149
Total	328	86,574	331	105,947

Out of the total number of 105,947 pupils under instruction in English schools, 35,516 were girls while the corresponding number for the previous year was only 29,116. There were 25 English High Schools and 25 English Middle Schools mainly intended for girls. Girls were also admitted in boys' schools in centres where there were no girls' schools.

Malayalam and Tamil Schools.

The number of Malayalam and Tamil schools decreased from 3,328 in 1118 to 3,283 in 1119, but their strength increased from 682,188 to 708,140. The following statement shows the number and strength of the Malayalam and Tamil schools in 1118 and 1119 :—

Schools.	1118		1119	
	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.
Malayalam and Tamil High and Middle Schools for Boys	428	147,403	423	156,279
Malayalam and Tamil High and Middle Schools for Girls	102	34,631	103	36,256
Primary Schools	2,798	500,154	2,757	515,605
Total	3,328	682,188	3,283	708,140

There was a rise in the strength of the primary and middle school sections while the strength of the high school section decreased. The decrease was due to the general desire for English education. Of the total number of 708,140 pupils in Malayalam and Tamil schools, 311,719 were girls as against 299,570 in the previous year. The number of girls studying in boys' schools was 53,977, the corresponding figure for 1118 being 48,925. Co-education of pupils was permitted in all classes and mixed staff was appointed to the departmental schools where-ever possible.

Instruction in Tamil and Hindi.

Instruction in Tamil and Hindi was provided in 114 schools and 21 schools respectively during the year.

Teachers.

In the interests of efficiency, appointment of trained teachers was insisted on as far as possible and the untrained teachers were directed to get themselves trained. During the year 15,367 trained teachers were working in the various schools, the percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers being 62·6.

Special Schools.

Training Schools.

There were 40 training schools for undergraduate lower and higher grade training. Seven of these schools were for women. The number of persons who underwent training during the year was 861 of which 113 were women.

Technical Schools for Girls.

There were 12 aided technical schools for girls with a total strength of 1,101 pupils at the end of the year. Weaving, embroidery and lace work were the main subjects taught in these institutions.

Reformatory School.

The strength of the Reformatory School at the commencement of the year was 59. There were several admissions to and discharges from the school during the year and the strength at the close of the year was 66. The juvenile offenders in the school were trained in gardening, spinning, weaving,

cookery, etc. Moral, religious and general instruction was given to them so as to train them in habits of industry, obedience and self-control and to instil in them a spirit of loyalty and devotion.

Sanskrit Schools.

There were 29 recognised and 23 unrecognised Sanskrit schools. The total strength of the recognised schools was 4,977 against 5,178 in the previous year. The *Kavya* section attached to the Sanskrit College continued to be under the control of the Education Department and it had a strength of 227 at the end of the year.

Other Special Schools.

Among other special schools working in the State, the following deserve mention :—

(i) the screwpine vocational weaving school for girls at Trivandrum ;

(ii) the weaving school attached to the Kannamangalam Malayalam Middle School for girls ;

(iii) four kindergarten schools ;

(iv) the Sri Chitrodaya Narthakalaya for giving training in Indian dancing ;

(v) three music schools ;

(vi) the Veera Kerala Gymkhana which is a school of physical culture at Trivandrum ; and

(vii) the school for the deaf and dumb opened at Trivandrum during the year.

All these institutions worked satisfactorily during the year.

The Sri Swati Tirunal Academy of Music.

The Sri Swati Tirunal Academy of Music at Trivandrum was started in Chingom 1115 for the purpose of popularising the compositions of Sri Swati Tirunal Maharaja and for imparting advanced instruction in music. The strength of this institution at the end of the year was 104 of which 72 were girls.

Education of Special Classes.

Special Schools for Kshatriyas.

There are special schools for the education of the members of the Kshatriya families at Mavelikara, Pandalam, Aranmula, Kilimanoor and Poonjar. The school at Mavelikara is an English middle school and all the rest are Malayalam primary schools. There is a boarding house attached to the school at Mavelikara where free boarding and lodging are provided.

Special Schools for Malayala Brahmins.

There is an English middle school at Kulakkada exclusively for the pupils of the Malayala Brahmin community. The strength of this school at the end of 1119 was 73 as against 104 at the end of the previous year. All the Malayala Brahmin pupils were boarding and lodging in the school.

Education of Mohammedans.

Special encouragements by way of scholarships and fee concessions have been offered to the Mohammedan pupils in the educational institutions. All the Mohammedan girls who are poor are taught free in Malayalam and Tamil schools as well as in English schools and all Mohammedan girls in English schools are given scholarships. Special schools for the exclusive use of the members of the community have also been provided in certain areas. There is an Inspector for Muslim education who inspects Arabic and Koran teaching in schools and who acts as consultant in matters pertaining to Mohammedan education. The number of Mohammedan pupils under instruction in English schools rose from 2,840 in 1118 to 3,323 in 1119 and that in Malayalam and Tamil schools from 29,858 to 31,004. The number of Mohammedan girls in Malayalam and Tamil schools rose from 9,678 in 1118 to 9,716 in 1119, while that in English schools fell from 834 to 772. Special instruction in Arabic was given in 285 schools during the year.

Education of Backward Communities.

The education of pupils belonging to the backward communities is systematically encouraged by the grant of special fee concessions, stipends, scholarships, boarding grants, etc. As in the previous years text books and class readers were distributed free to the pupils belonging to the backward communities studying in classes III and IV of the departmental and private schools. The concession to backward communities in respect of exemption from payment of examination fees was continued during the year. The number of pupils belonging to the backward communities under instruction in English schools rose from 14,911 (including 4,483 girls) in 1118 to 18,476 (including 5,018 girls) in 1119. In Malayalam and Tamil schools their number increased from 71,355 (including 24,974 girls) in 1118 to 71,795 (including 24,467 girls) in 1119. 78 Harijan schools were aided during the year and a sum of Rs. 8,411 was spent on that account.

Miscellaneous.

Hostels and Boarding Houses.

There were 70 hostels and boarding houses under the control of the Education Department, 35 attached to English schools for boys, 4 to Malayalam and Tamil schools and 31 to girls' schools.

Orphanages.

There were 15 orphanages working during the year with a total strength of 681. A sum of Rs. 3,951 was spent as grant-in-aid to these institutions.

Libraries and Reading Rooms.

In order to encourage adult education a system of awarding grant-in-aid to reading rooms and libraries was introduced from the year 1092 M. E. Sixty such institutions (13 urban and 47 rural) were in receipt of grant during the year. The system of running rural libraries attached to the departmental primary schools was continued during the year. There were 100 such libraries during 1119 as against 96 in the previous year. Every rural library was supplied with a daily newspaper, a weekly and two monthly magazines.

The policy of encouraging the Scout movement in schools was continued during the year and there was definite progress in the movement. The total number of scouts, cubs, etc., was 4,462 in 1119 as against 4,126 in the previous year and the number of girl guides, blue birds, etc., in English schools was 115 as against 84 in 1118. The Travancore Boy Scouts Association was given the usual grant of Rs. 5,000 as in the previous year..

Scouting.

Special attention was bestowed by the Department on the encouragement of games and other athletic activities in schools. The Travancore Athletic Association was given a grant of Rs. 1,500. Sports and tournaments for boys and girls were organised and conducted.

Athletic Activities.

The Visual Education Scheme was introduced during the year for the benefit of the pupils in the high schools in Trivandrum and educational films were shown to the pupils of these schools.

Visual Education.

The expenditure incurred during the year on account of scholarships paid by Government amounted to Rs. 34,198 as against Rs. 26,975 in the previous year. Stipends were given to teachers deputed for training and a sum of Rs. 15,092 was spent during the year on this account.

Scholarships and Stipends.

The percentage of literacy of different communities as well as their economic conditions were adopted as the basis for the grant of fee concessions. A sum of Rs. 79,633 was spent on account of fee concessions during the year as against Rs. 77,177 in the previous year.

Fee Concessions.

Under the auspices of the Vanchi Poor Fund, noon feeding of starving school children was conducted in as many schools as possible and a good number of poor children benefited by this scheme.

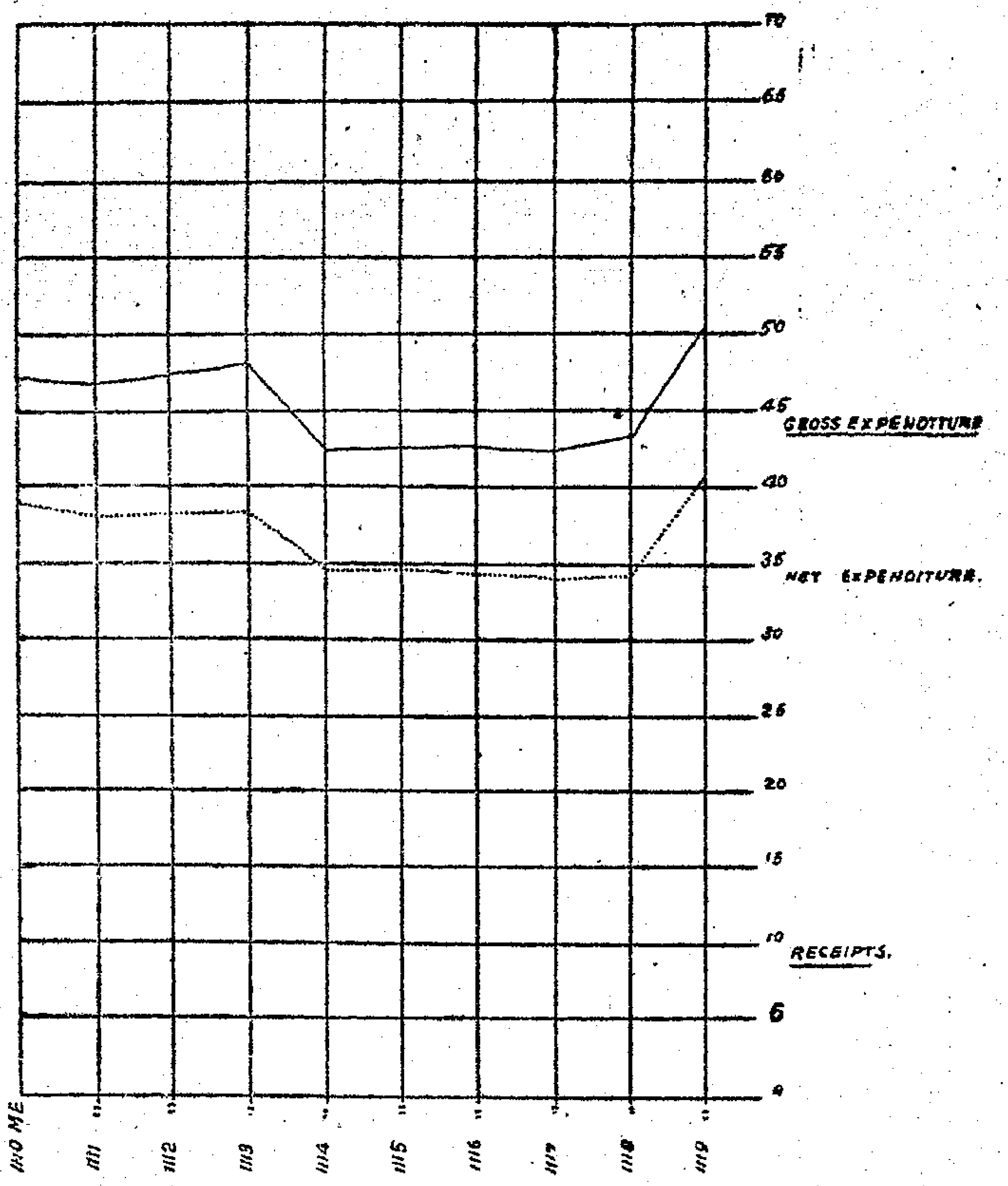
Noon Feeding of School Children.

The results of the Public Examinations conducted by the department are shown in the following statement:—

Examinations.

EDUCATION

GROSS EXPENDITURE RECEIPTS, AND NET EXPENDITURE.



DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

N	Examinations.	Males.						Females.						Males and females.		Percentage of passes.
		No. of examinees.			No. passed.			No. of examinees.			No. passed.					
		Public.	Private.	Total.	Public.	Private.	Total.	Public.	Private.	Total.	Public.	Private.	Total.	No. of examinees who sat for the examination.	No. passed.	
1	Eng. School Leaving Certificate Examination	3929	617	4546	2282	215	2497	1405	170	1575	777	49	826	6121	3323	54·3
2	E. M. S. Examination.	7948	..	7948	5563	..	5563	4112	..	4112	2555	..	2555	12060	8118	67·3
3	Mal. /Tamil High school Examination	1973	320	2293	845	92	937	1135	242	1377	383	73	456	3670	1393	37·9
4	Mal. /Tamil Mid. school Examination	6151	79	6230	2963	44	3007	3587	57	3644	1511	31	1542	9874	4549	46·1
5	Music Examinations															
	(a) Music Instructors' Test	..	7	7	..	3	3	..	62	62	..	30	30	69	33	47·8
	(b) Final Examination of the S. S. T. Academy of Music	4	2	6	4	1	5	15	2	17	12	2	14	23	19	82·6
6	Sastri Test Examination	479	138	617	221	56	277	96	29	125	32	5	37	742	314	42·3
7	Arabic Munshy Examination (a) Higher Grade	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	60
	(b) Lower Grade	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	40
8	Needlework and Garment making Examination	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	210	210	..	95	95	210	95	45·2

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the Education Department in 1119 amounted to Rs. 9·75 lakhs and the expenditure including the grant to the University was Rs. 60·42 lakhs.

CHAPTER XIV.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

History.

The earliest legislation relating to local self-government in Travancore was Act II of 1069. Prior to that, a set of rules passed in 1053 M.E. governed sanitation and other matters connected with the improvement of towns. The rules applied to the town of Trivandrum and regulated only certain matters relating to conservancy. They had not the force of law and were not comprehensive enough to meet the growing needs of the capital or of the important mofussil towns. The Act passed in 1069, to provide for the conservancy and improvement of towns, created town improvement committees and town funds; but the powers of the committees were limited and their duties confined to the supervision of sanitary arrangements. The committees had no power of taxation. Five committees *viz.*, those at Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, were appointed under this Act. The number of members on those committees varied from 5 to 9 with a permanent official majority. This Act was superseded by Act III of 1076 which for the first time authorised local taxation with the previous sanction of Government and thereby enabled the committees to augment their resources and to widen the scope of their usefulness. The experience gained in the working of this Act, the demands from the various committees for greater powers and the progress of local bodies elsewhere led to the promulgation of Act V of 1095 on the lines of the law in force in British India at the time. Under this Act, municipal councils were constituted and the maximum official as well as the minimum elected non-official element were fixed. The scope of municipal activities was enlarged and the obligatory and discretionary duties of municipal councils were defined.

The provisions of Act V of 1095 which governed the working of the municipality of Trivandrum, as also of the mofussil municipalities for a couple of decades were not in many respects,

suitable enough to meet the increasing needs of these municipalities. It had also been felt that the municipal town of Trivandrum, the capital of the State which had grown into a city should be treated on a separate footing and be governed by a law for itself. The Trivandrum City Municipal Act, IV of 1116 M. E. drawn up on the lines of the Madras City Municipal Act of 1919 A. D. was therefore passed; and the Trivandrum Municipality was constituted into a Corporation on the 14th Thulam 1116, with larger autonomous powers in the matter of managing its own affairs. The new Act provides for the vesting of the administration of the City in a council composed of 24 elected and 8 nominated councillors one of whom shall be a woman. The municipal authorities charged with the carrying out of the provisions of the new Act are (1) the Council (2) the Standing Committees and (3) the Commissioner, who is the chief executive authority of the Corporation responsible for the proper conduct of the municipal administration and for carrying out the decisions of the council.

The Travancore District Municipalities Bill intended to stimulate the efficient progress of municipal administration in Travancore was drafted on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1919 and was passed into law as Act XXIII of 1116.

Number, Composition, Area and Population.

The number of municipalities excluding the Trivandrum City Corporation was 17. Six of the municipal towns are in the Trivandrum Division, six in the Quilon Division and the remaining five in the Kottayam Division. The municipal councils are composed of members, partly elected by the ratepayers and partly nominated by the Government, the elected members forming the majority. Of the nominated, some are officials and the others non-officials. All the municipal councils have the right of electing their Chairmen who may be chosen either from amongst the members or from outside. The area comprised within the limits of municipalities was roughly 102 sq. miles, with a total population of 574,500 according to the census of 1941.

Finance.

The aggregate opening balance to the credit of all the municipal councils (including Trivandrum City Corporation) at the beginning of the year was Rs. 3·84 lakhs. The total receipts of all the councils during the year including the opening balance was Rs. 17·41 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 11·81 lakhs was spent by the councils during the year.

Work of the Municipalities.

The main function of municipal administration continued to be the care of sanitation and public health. Among the obligatory functions devolving on municipalities, lighting of public streets, vaccination and registration of births and deaths were attended to by all municipal councils. Conducting leper clinics and child welfare centres, rendering free midwifery aid, running libraries and reading rooms, subsidising vaidyasalas, etc., were some of the other important items of work attended to by the councils.

Village Panchayats and Village Unions.

The Village Panchayats constituted in 1107, under the Village Panchayat Act, VII of 1100 at Bhoothapandy, Nedumangad, Paravur, Samburvadakara, Ettumanur and Perumbavur have been working since 1109 and the Panchayat at Airoor in the Tiruvalla taluk has been working since the year 1112. The seven Panchayts had a total of 65 members of whom 44 were elected and the rest nominated by Government. Sanitation and lighting of roads and improvement of tanks and wells were the main items of work undertaken by the Panchayats.

With a view to affording better opportunity to the people for making the village organisations more useful and beneficial, Government decided that side by side with the Village Panchayat Act, another measure to suit modern conditions should be brought into being and accordingly the Village Unions Act of 1115 was promulgated. Besides the first instalment of 26 village unions constituted under the Act in 1115 another batch of 13 unions was established in 1116. At the end of the year under report, there were 39 unions working; 11 in the Trivandrum

Division, 15 in the Quilon Division and 13 in the Kottayam Division. Each of these Unions is composed of six non-officials and five officials. Subject to certain rules prescribed by Government in this behalf, it is the function of village unions to attend to works of public utility, such as the cleaning of streets, water supply, irrigation, sanitation, etc., of the places coming within their respective jurisdiction.

CHAPTER XV.

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Devaswom Commissioner. *Mr. S. Ramakrishna Aiyar, B. A.*

General.

In pursuance of the Devaswom Proclamation dated the 12th April, 1922 the control of the Sirkar Devaswoms, which had been vested in the Land Revenue Department, was taken away from that department and vested in the Devaswom Department, newly formed from the commencement of 1098 M. E. To meet the annual expenditure on Devaswoms, it was also resolved to credit to Devaswoms, annually, a sum representing not less than 40 per cent. of the State's recurring land revenue and to constitute a Devaswom Fund comprising this allotment and the other miscellaneous items of revenue like offerings etc., received by them. The newly formed Devaswom Department was entrusted with the administration not only of the Sirkar Devaswoms but also of *Japadakshina* and *Ottus* or charitable institutions, with the exception of the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple and the *Agrasala* at the Capital, and of Personal Deposit Devaswoms and of their properties situated in and outside the State. Towards the close of 1100, the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation; and their administration was entrusted to the Devaswom Commissioner, who was made directly responsibile to the Sovereign, except in certain important matters in respect of which the previous approval of the Dewan had to be obtained. From Vrischikam 1107, however, the notification giving effect to this arrangement was cancelled and the Devaswom Department was again placed under the Dewan like the other departments of Government.

Scheduled Devaswoms are grouped into 3 classes *viz.*, major, minor and petty according to their annual expenditure. Major Devaswoms are those whose annual expenditure is Rs. 1,000 or more, minor between Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000 and petty below Rs. 100. The number of major, minor and petty Devaswoms at the close of the year was 167, 377 and 881 respectively.

Devaswoms-Major, Minor and Petty.

Apart from Scheduled Devaswoms there are the Personal Deposit Devaswoms which are unincorporated religious institutions which have come under the control and management of Government at different times and under varying circumstances. The accounts in respect of these are not merged in the general Devaswom accounts, but are maintained separately. They have personal deposit accounts with the Government treasuries. The total number of such institutions at the end of the year was 92 against 90 at the end of the previous year. The most important of these are (1) the Pattazhi Devaswom, (2) the Erumeli and Paschima Devaswoms, (3) the Turavur Devaswom, (4) the Perumbavur Devaswom and (5) the Perumanam Devaswom in the Cochin State the *utchapuja* service in which is conducted by the Travancore Government by virtue of the right acquired from the Parur Raja, by the annexation of that principality to the Travancore State.

Personal Deposit Devaswoms.

The Sree Chitrodaya Deva Pooja Patasala at Tiruvalla for the training of persons in the performance of *Santi* or devotional service in the temples, the *Veda-patasala* at Trivandrum and the *Thevara-patasala* at Suchindram were continued during the year.

Instructional Institutions.

The Sri Chitra Central Hindu Religious Library and Lecture Hall at Trivandrum functioned throughout the year. There were 3,024 books in the Library. Besides, 15 periodicals were also subscribed for. The Library and Lecture Hall opened at Nagercoil in 1117 continued to work during the year.

Hindu Religious Libraries.

Devaswom Fund.

The Devaswom Fund consists of the Government's contribution and the income derived from *Nadavaravus*, interest on investments, revenue from Devaswom lands, etc. The Government's annual contribution to the Devaswom Fund, according to the present arrangement is a sum of not less than Rs. 16 lakhs, provided that it does not fall below 40 per cent. of the total *Ayacut* and *Sanchayam* land revenue, the Kandukrishi land revenue also being included in the *Ayacut* land revenue in calculating the percentage. The Government's contribution from the year 1113 has accordingly been Rs. 16 lakhs per year. The total receipts of the Fund including the above contribution amounted to Rs. 19·92 lakhs in 1119, and the total expenditure charged to the Fund was Rs. 18·57 lakhs. This does not include the pay of the officers and the establishment of the Devaswom Department, which is met from the general revenues of the State.

Devaswom Works.

The Maramath Branch of the Public Works Department attended to major works connected with temples, all works under petty construction and repairs being, as usual, carried out by the Devaswom Department. The Maramath Committee scrutinised the estimates for major works. A sum of Rs. 66,172 was spent by the Public Works Department on the renovation of the Devaswom buildings and appurtenances.

Working of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Act, III of 1079, provides for the better administration of Hindu Religious Endowments in the State. Under this Act it is competent to the Government to intervene in the affairs of such institutions and assume their management whenever necessary. Enquiries under Section 6 of the Act were ordered in respect of 6 institutions and enquiries in respect of institutions were completed during the year. The management of the affairs of one Devaswom was assumed by Government.

Miscellaneous.

Verification of *Thiruvabharanams* and other valuables in Devaswoms was continued during the year. Religious discourses were, as usual, conducted in most of the major Devaswoms in connection with *utsavams* and other important ceremonies, and religious conventions were held at Mandakad, Thirunakkara and Vaikom.

CHAPTER XVI.

FOOD CONTROL MEASURES.

As a result of the comprehensive measures taken by the Government in 1118 the food situation during the year under report eased to a certain extent. The first step taken in 1119 was to intensify the procurement operations within the State. The uniform application of the system of purchase on the acreage basis was modified and the system of purchase on the basis of the *settlement pattom* was introduced. The local Purchase Officers were also empowered to ascertain the purchasable excess beyond the *settlement pattom* with each land owner and to arrange for the sale of these excess quantities to Government after meeting the reasonable requirements of the cultivator for purposes of seed, cultivation expenses and bonafide domestic consumption. Although a minimum quota for purchase was thus indicated, the general principles followed in the matter of purchase was on the lines indicated by Government in the Press Note dated the 1st September 1943 which says "The entire paddy produced in the State is at the absolute disposal of Government for general distribution among the people and the entire quota is liable to be purchased by Government compulsorily except such quantity as the landholder or the cultivator will be permitted to retain for purposes of seed, cultivation and bonafide consumption".

In pursuance of the policy announced by the Government of India to expedite the despatch of all outstanding balances in the quotas already allotted to the State, large shipments of rice, wheat and other food grains were consigned in quick succession to the Port of Cochin. In order to relieve congestion at the Port and to facilitate speedy movement of food grains from Cochin to Travancore, Government secured shuttle service steamers to ply between Cochin and Trivandrum. They also utilised to the largest extent possible the existing facilities for canal transport. A senior officer of Government was appointed to be in sole charge

of all transport arrangements relating to food grains whether by canal route or by sea route. He has been invested with the powers of a District Magistrate so far as may be necessary, throughout the State in the matter of commandeering boats, *vallums* and other vessels plying in Travancore waters. He commandeered godowns and other buildings for storing food grains imported from outside the State. He was given full authority to negotiate with boat owners and boatmen direct in the matter of commandeering boats. Such Police assistance as was necessary for the discharge of the above functions by the Special Officer was placed at his disposal. The P. W. D., the Revenue and the Police Departments were asked to give their unstinted co-operation to this Officer who was empowered to utilise the services of the subordinate Officers of all the Departments concerned. In order to minimise the inconveniences for the transport of private cargo, Government released about 400 *vallums* out of nearly 1,000 and odd *vallums* which had been commandeered.

Though Government had prohibited the export of tapioca in any form from the State and also the manufacture of tapioca starch, numerous complaints were received regarding the non-availability of tapioca in the local markets, for purposes of consumption. One of the main reasons for this dearth was understood to be that leading merchants and industrial concerns were in the habit of buying raw tapioca at prohibitive rates and storing it in the form of dry chips with a view to profiteering. As a result the commodity went out of the poor man's reach. In order to ensure its supply and meet the present food crisis, Government were forced to take steps for controlling the article. Accordingly, the Tapioca Control Order, 1119, which introduced a license system in tapioca business was issued. The price of the stuff was also fixed by Government.

With a view to regulate the distribution of food grains on an equitable and uniform basis and thereby to ensure that every person in the State will obtain a definite quantity of food stuffs, Government introduced rationing on a State-wide basis with effect from February 1944. The 30 taluks in the State have been treated as separate rationing areas besides the Trivandrum City and the four major Municipal towns of Nagercoil, Quilon,

Alleppey and Kottayam which are treated as urban areas. There are now 30 rural and 5 urban rationing areas in the State.

The Foodgrains Purchase Officer was functioning as the State Food Rationing Officer as well. Full time Rationing Officers have been appointed for the 5 urban areas. But in the case of the 30 rural areas the respective Tahsildars are put in charge of rationing in addition to their normal work. However, in 28 of the above rural areas Assistant Purchase and Rationing Officers have been appointed to assist the Tahsildars. The City Rationing Officer in Trivandrum has been given four Food Inspectors to assist him in the discharge of his duties.

To take a correct census of the occupied houses and of the number of persons residing therein, a special staff of enumerators was engaged for a short period. The application forms for the ration cards were issued at the time and they were collected duly filled up. Ration cards were issued to the applicants after verification of the details furnished in the application.

Persons not below 12 years of age were deemed as adults and those below 12 years of age but not below 1 year as non-adults. Those below 1 year were ignored for purpose of ration. Persons expected to reside in any house for any period below 1 month were not to be included in the application. Units were allotted to every family on the basis that every adult is entitled to get 2 units per week and every non-adult 1 unit. Accordingly an adult would get every week 6 *nazhies* of rice, 3 *nazhies* of wheat and 1 *nazhi* of bajra or maize, weighing 56 ozs., 24½ ozs., and 10½ ozs., respectively.

Persons in charge of catering establishments, etc., were asked to apply for ration permits in the form prescribed therefor. Supply to them was based on the average number of persons for whom meals were served daily and the quantity of paddy or rice that was supplied to them by the distributing authorities in 1118 and in the first quarter of 1119. Since no hard and fast rule could be laid down in regard to the supply to the establishments, etc., the Rationing Officers were directed to make careful enquiries and exercise their discretion in the best interests of the public.

Provision has been made for the supply of foodgrains to guests and visitors who intend to stay for not less than 7 days in an area. Temporary ration cards are issued to them if applications are presented to the Area Rationing Officer in the form prescribed for the purpose.

Supplementary rations amounting to 50 per cent. of the basic ration are allowed in the case of manual labourers.

Government have called upon the public to exercise economy in the use of foodgrains and have directed that feasts, etc., should be minimised as far as possible. However, provision has been made for special supplies on a small scale. Applications therefor have to be made to the Area Rationing Officer in the prescribed form and if he is satisfied about the bonafides of the application, a special ration card will be issued for the minimum requirements within the maximum of 100 units allowable to any card holder in a month. The applicants for special supplies have the option to purchase rice or paddy alone.

Authorised wholesale merchants and retail merchants were engaged for the purchase of rationed food grains from the Government Depot and for distribution to the public. The retail selling price of the rationed food grains was fixed by the Rationing Officers after taking into account the actual price, loading, unloading and other incidental charges involved and a reasonable margin of profit. The margin of profit allowed over and above the total cost is meant to include interest on investment, establishment charges, shop rent, etc., a margin of 4 to 8 annas per bag is ordinarily allowed to retail dealers.

The co-operation of the public was enlisted in all activities connected with rationing and instructions were issued to the Rationing Officers to attend promptly to all suggestions made by the non-official committees in regard to the conduct of the distributors in their dealings with card-holders, the enforcement of the price fixed, checking of the quality and quantity of food grains issued and such other matters.

A few public spirited and active young men who offered their services to do honorary work in connection with the purchasing

and rationing schemes were selected and posted in different centres. They are called Volunteer Supervisors and are given only honoraria.

A sum of Rs. 1058·71 lakhs was invested in the purchase of food grains and Rs. 777·43 lakhs were realised by sales.

The ration has since been revised as follows : —

Rice ...	4½	*Nazhies*	One Unit.
Wheat ...	1½	„	

On the whole the food situation at present may be said to be satisfactory.

CHAPTER XVII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Anchal (State Postal Department)

Superintendent. *Mr. P. A. Kasim, B. A., B. L.*

The Sirkar Anchal is one of the earliest institutions in the State. Its reorganisation so long ago as 1784 A. D. is the earliest available record relating to the department. Its original function was confined to the transmission of State papers and sundry articles like vegetables, flowers, etc. from mofussil stations, for use in the Palace and the *Sri Padmanabhaswami* temple. In 1848, the department was thrown open to Government servants and petitioners, private letters of Government servants and petitions from members of the public being carried free. Private covers were accepted from 1860; and postage on letters, packets etc., was regulated during the succeeding year. Registered envelopes were introduced in 1865, Anchal stamps and cards in 1888 the money order system in 1901, the value payable system in 1906, the savings bank work in 1912 and the insurance system in 1921.

Early History.

There were 380 Anchal Offices at the end of the year against 375 at the end of the previous year. Of these, 197 were departmental and 183 non-departmental, 35 of the latter being only in the experimental stage. The number of letter boxes at the end of the year was 620 against 615 at the end of the previous year.

Anchal Offices and Letter Boxes.

The number of private articles posted rose from 17,169,249 in 1118 to 47,960,354 in 1119, that of official articles from 3,937,036 to 5,247,210 and that of privileged articles from 1,252,205 to 2,926,913. The number of articles delivered during the year was 55,073,289 against 24,977,447 articles in 1118.

Articles posted and delivered.

As in the previous year, 20 Anchal Offices were doing insurance work. 248 articles were insured during the year as against 214 in the previous year. The total number of value payable articles both inland and foreign issued in Travancore during the year was 29,573, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 17,218. Of the value payable articles issued 1,706 were for delivery in the Cochin State. Inclusive of 213 undelivered value payables of the previous year and 5,958 received from Cochin State for delivery, the total number of value payable articles for delivery was 34,038 against 19,973 in the previous year. Of these 31,225 were delivered to the addressees and 1,896 returned to the senders leaving a balance of 917 value payable articles in the hands of the department at the end of the year.

Value Payable and Insured Articles.

The hundi branch of the department deals with inland hundies, foreign hundies for payment in Cochin, Labour foreign hundies, revenue hundies and pension payment hundies. All the 380 Anchal Offices in the State were doing hundi business. The total number of inland and foreign hundies for delivery in 1119 was 639,361 as against 610,925 in the previous year. Of these 630,027 hundies were delivered in Travancore and 623 were redirected to Cochin for payment leaving a balance of 8,711 pending payment at the end of the year. The amount of hundies paid was Rs. 83,31,976-11-15 which showed an increase of Rs. 13,32,774-22-7 over that of the previous year. The number of revenue hundies issued during the year was 10,632 for Rs. 67,432-2-7 and that of Government revenue remittance hundies was 279 for Rs. 73,348-16-8. Forty-eight pension payment hundies for Rs. 630-24-0 and 1,074 Labour foreign hundies for Rs. 22,112-9-10 were received for payment during the year. Money orders for Rs. 1,43,869-7-0 were issued in different offices free of commission against Rs. 91,614-12-8 in 1118 and State Life Insurance money orders for Rs. 1,39,696-13-13 were paid to the Accountant General's Office against Rs. 89,359-13-2 during the previous year.

Hundi Business.

Savings Bank.

The number of Anchal Offices doing Savings Bank work was 160 at the close of 1118. Savings bank work was started in 3 offices during the year. The number of savings bank transactions done during the year was 274,468 as against 235,620 in the previous year. Of these, 137,913 were deposits amounting to Rs. 2,33,34,213-17-3 and 136,555 were withdrawals amounting to Rs. 1,86,97,732-16-6. The balance held by the savings bank at the end of the year was Rs. 2,73,45,014-13-14 as against Rs. 2,19,68,125-5-5 at the end of the previous year.

Telephone Work in Anchal Offices.

The total number of Anchal Offices doing telephone work at the close of the year was 30 as against 29 at the close of the previous year. Twenty-four hours service is guaranteed in all telephone public call offices except Alwaye.

Anchal Mail Lines.

The total length of mail lines increased from 1705¼ miles at the end of 1118 to 1729¾ miles at the end of 1119. The transport of mails was made by railway for 99 miles, by motor boats for 18 miles, by motor buses for 939½ miles and by runners for 672¾ miles.

Transport Department.

Director. *Mr. E. G. Salter*

Extensions and Re-adjustments of Service.

There was no extension of ordinary services during the year. The express service was extended from Alwaye to Munnar with one journey per day in each direction. A separate express service was started between Trivandrum and Quilon operating two journeys either way, thus enabling the Trivandrum-Kottayam express to be operated direct instead of along the circuitous route *via* Quilon. The rules regarding the reservation of seats in express buses were so modified as to make all the seats available for reservation instead of 50 per cent.

Mileage, Fare and Traffic.

The number of passengers carried during the year was 8·6 millions against 7·6 millions in 1118 and the mileage operated was 4,670,333 as against 4,829,685 in the previous year. No modification in passenger fares was effected during the year.

Parcels and Goods Transport.

There were agencies in all the important stations to receive parcels from consignors and to distribute them to consignees and the number of such agencies was 49 as in the previous year. The great increase in the volume of parcels and luggage rendered it necessary, as a restrictive measure, to increase the charges by 33 1/3 per cent. In order to relieve the strain on the buses two lorries were provided for transporting parcels exclusively. The receipts from parcels amounted to Rs. 1,76,973 as against Rs. 1,30,690 in 1118.

In addition to the transport of goods on behalf of the K. D. H. P. Co. Ltd., the department, in Makaram 1119, undertook the transport of all materials required in connection with the extension of the P. H. E. Project. A total quantity of 24,856 tons of goods was transported during the year and a sum of Rs. 5·5 lakhs was earned thereby.

Coastal Transport.

After the monsoon season was over, the brigs belonging to the department resumed voyages between West Coast ports mainly Trivandrum and Cochin bringing down foodgrains to Trivandrum and carrying mineral sands and sundries to Cochin. On 1st Medom 1119, the management of the coastal transport was entrusted to the newly formed Steam Navigation Company and the vessels belonging to the department along with those newly constructed by Government were handed over to the Company for operation.

Amenities to Passengers.

Although the scarcity of materials and labour, especially of new vehicles and spare parts, continued to prevail, the department has made the best use of all available facilities for maintaining the efficiency of the services and for providing the maximum comfort to the passengers. Most of the buses are

equipped with saloon bodies designed for comfortable travel. A high standard of tidiness is maintained and the seats are regularly sprayed with insecticides. Waiting rooms are provided in important stations. Civility and courtesy on the part of the staff towards passengers are insisted on.

Accidents.

The number of accidents fell from 46 in 1118 to 32 in 1119. Of these, 12 were petty accidents, 13 were serious and 7 fatal accidents. The accident rate was one for every 146,000 miles run as against one for 105,000 miles in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The gross receipts of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 37·7 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 25·47 lakhs as against Rs. 30·13 lakhs and Rs. 22·66 lakhs respectively in the previous year.

Mint.

General.

The history of Travancore coins dates back to a period far earlier than the establishment of the Travancore Mint at Padmanabhapuram in 965 M. E. (1789—90 A. D.). To begin with, gold coins known as *anandarayan fanams*, silver *chuckrams* and copper *cash* were issued. The Mint was permanently transferred to Trivandrum in 1824 A. D. Gold, silver, zinc and copper coins were once in circulation. Travancore gold coins are not now legal tender. The existing currency is described in Chapter I.

Control.

The administrative control of the Mint is vested in the Financial Secretary to Government, the immediate charge of the Mint being with the Superintendent of that institution.

Owing to the acute shortage of small coins, the activities of the Government Mint were confined during the year to the minting of copper coins from blanks got down from the Bombay Mint. Copper coins to the face value of Rs. 1,18,879 were minted during the year and the scarcity of small coins experienced during 1118 was eased during the year under review.

Coins in circulation.

The following statement shows the Sirkar coins assumed to be in circulation at the close of the year :—

Description.	Face value of coins minted			Value of coins held in treasuries on 31.12-1119.	Value of coins withdrawn from circulation.	Value of coins assumed to be in circulation.
	Up to end of 1118.	During 1119.	Up to end of 1119.			
SILVER.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Half rupees	25,42,840	..	25,42,840	2,47,191	..	22,95,649
Quarter rupees	2,81,500	..	2,81,500	4,016	..	2,77,484
Fanams	12,14,709	..	12,14,709	1,02,308	..	11,12,401
Total	40,39,049	..	40,39,049	3,53,515	..	36,85,534
COPPER.						
One chuckram	12,98,556	60,349	13,58,905	33,798	..	13,25,107
Half chuckram	5,24,941	31,455	5 56,396	13,842	..	5,42,554
One-fourth chuckram	2,61,615	23,893	2,84,508	15,121	..	2,69,787
One Cash	1,79,989	3,182	1,83,171	3,528	..	1,79,643
Total	22,64,501	1,18,879	23,83,380	66,289	..	23,17,091
Total of silver and copper	63,03,550	1,18,879	64,22,429	4,19,804	..	60,02,625

Coins cut.

373 Sirkar coins and 804 British Indian coins of various denominations were cut by the Treasury Officers during the year as defective.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The total receipts of the department during 1119 amounted to Rs. 3,76,229-25-13 of which Rs. 3,76,220-21-5 represented the gain on silver coinage. An expenditure of Rs. 7,193-17-7 was incurred on account of establishment charges and contingencies.

Government Press.

Superintendent. *Mr. P. E. Mathew, B. A.*

General.

The Government Press was first organised in 1836 A. D. In addition to the Government Gazette published every Tuesday, the most important items of work attended to by the Government Press are the printing of the State Administration Report, the departmental reports, the statistical volume, the proceedings of both

Houses of the Legislature and all similar Government publications including the Readers and Text books for schools.

Machinery and Plant.

The value of the plant at the end of the previous year stood at Rs 1·81 lakh. Types etc., cast in the Press and purchased from outside, valued at Rs. 28,705, were added to the stock. Deducting the depreciation and the value of plant transferred to other departments and making allowance for the battered types etc., issued, the value of the plant at the end of the year stood at Rs. 2·01 lakhs.

Out-turn.

The number of standard pages set in the composing section was 59,871 against 55,977 in the previous year. The total number of impressions struck in the machine section was 31,760,706 against 23,823,224 in 1118. In the type foundry 18,347 lbs. of types and 4,308 square inches of line blocks, plates, etc., were cast and cut during the year. The binding section executed works valued at Rs. 90,218 against Rs. 57,489 in the previous year. 4,136 lbs. of types valued at Rs. 3,158 were cast in the Thompson type-casting machines. Metal and rubber stamps to the value of Rs. 1,129 were made and supplied. The total out-turn of work in the Press during the year was valued at Rs. 2·97 lakhs.

Gazette.

The average circulation of the Gazette and the departmental sheets in the years 1118 and 1119 is given below:—

	Year.	Number subscribed for.	Number issued free.
Gazette	1118	1,304	247
	1119	2,088	249
Departmental sheets	1118	113	3,094
	1119	66	3,645

Stationery Department.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure under stationery for the years 1117, 1118 and 1119 M. E.

Particulars.	1117.	1118.	1119.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	7,787	20,062	26,041
Expenditure	1,91,771	2,55,472	5,54,685
Deduct cost of Stationery supplied to Anchal, Water Works, Electricity, Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory.	14,909	15,631	20,444
Total	1,76,862	2,39,841	5,34,241

During the year under report, purchases to the value of Rs. 5,55,045 were made against Rs. 2,83,107 during the previous year. The value of articles issued during the year amounted to Rs. 5,54,685 against Rs. 2,55,472 of the previous year. The increase is due mainly to the increase in the cost of paper purchased. The value of stock on hand at the close of the year was Rs. 2,39,084.

Presses and Publications.

There were 166 printing presses at the close of the year 1119 against 172 in 1118. The number of books published from the various presses was 312. Of these, 206 were published in Malayalam, 58 in English, 29 in Tamil, 7 in English and Malayalam and 12 in other languages. As in the previous years, the majority of the publications issued from private presses related to general literature and the rest dealt with religion, history, education, medicine, science and other subjects.

Newspapers and Periodicals.

There were 80 newspapers and periodicals published in the State during the year against 79 in 1118. Of these, 34 were published in Malayalam, 13 in English, 6 in Tamil, 23 in English and Malayalam, 1 in English and Latin, 1 in Sanskrit and

Malayalam and 2 in English and Tamil. Of the newspapers and periodicals in circulation, 7 were dailies, 16 weeklies, 46 monthlies, 3 published once in two months, 1 quarterly, 4 published once in four months and 3 annually. Of the 80 newspapers and periodicals 12 were devoted to general and political topics, 15 to social and religious, 1 to commercial, 1 to medical and public health, 3 to legal, 2 to humorous, 15 to religious, 5 literary, 2 literary and religious, 4 educational and 20 to general, educational and literary topics. During the year under report, 8 licenses were issued to newspapers and periodicals under Section 3 of the Travancore Newspapers Act, V of 1101, as amended by Act IV of 1110. The total number of newspapers and periodicals that were being published at the close of the year was 80.

Department of Information.

The Press Room and Enquiry Office which was organised in 1090 M. E. (1915 A. D.) is now the Department of Information and it functions as a branch of the Secretariat. The department furnishes reports about Government activities, keeps the Government informed of the trend of public opinion as reflected in the newspapers within and outside the State, gives effective publicity to matters relating to the State and supplies information regarding the State to tourists and others when required. In the Press Room, accredited Press representatives are given all information relating to important administrative measures, the working of the various departments and new schemes planned by Government.

Travancore Information and Listener.

In September 1940, the Department of Information began to publish an illustrated monthly journal called "Travancore Information." One of the objects of the publication is to keep the public informed of the various activities of Government in the field of agricultural and industrial development. The publication also gives a bird's-eye-view of the happenings in the State from time to time. In April 1943, the name of the journal was changed into "Travancore Information and Listener". The advance programmes of the Travancore Radio are included in the publication. The journal is filling a real want.

Archaeological Department.

Director of Archaeology. — *Mr. R. Vasudeva Poduval, B. A.*

General.

The Archaeological Department was established in the year 1071 M. E. The work of the department is embodied in the Travancore Archaeological Series published from time to time.

Epigraphy.

Sixteen inscriptions which were not hitherto noticed were copied and deciphered. Survey and investigation of ancient works of art were continued during the year. Plaster cast models of 24 stone friezes belonging to the 15th century A. D. were taken in the year for being set on display in the Government Museum at Trivandrum. Over 500 ancient coins in the Trivandrum Museum were classified and listed.

Museum of Antiquities.

The Museum of Antiquities at Padmanabhapuram was made permanent from 1119 M. E. Many valuable additions were made to the stock of exhibits in the Museum. A total number of 60,847 persons visited the Museum during the year.

Museums.

Art Adviser to Government to supervise Government Museums and Picture Galleries. — *Professor J. H. Cousins.*

Officer in charge of Museums. — *Mr. R. Vasudeva Poduval, B. A.*

The Museum was originally started about the year 1853 A. D. and was located in its present site in 1880. The object of the foundation was to encourage science and art. The Public Gardens came into existence in 1859 A. D. Soon after, a Zoological section was formed with His Highness the Maharaja's private menagerie as its nucleus. The Museum, the Public Gardens and the Zoo formed one administrative unit till the end of 1111 M. E.,

when the first as also the second and third were placed under the control of two separate officers designated officers-in-charge. The two latter branches together are now known as the 'Government Gardens' under the control of an Honorary Director, assisted by a full-time Superintendent. The institutions, as they exist to-day, are the growth of well over half a century and they have been giving instruction and pleasure to several thousands of people every year.

The Museum was kept open to the public for 307 days in the year and a large number of persons visited the Museum during the year under report.

Government Gardens and the Zoo.

Honorary Director. *Dr. D. Jivanayakam, M. A. L. T., Ph. D.*

Zoo.

The Zoo live-stock at the commencement of the year was 564. During the year 105 animals were added to the stock by births, presentations, purchase, etc., 48 animals died and 53 were disposed of by sale, exchange, etc. The total number of live-stock at the end of the year was 568.

Special mention has to be made of the gracious benefaction to the Zoo by His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore by valuable presents of a zebra stallion, a pair of Chacma baboons, a female Arabian baboon and a female Mandrill monkey from His Highness's Zoological Gardens.

The number of visitors to the Zoo was more than that of the previous year, the average number of visitors per day increasing from 271 to 418. In addition to the visitors admitted on payment of nominal gate fee, many parties of students and teachers were admitted free.

Gardens.

The Gardens are divided into two sections, the top garden and the lower garden. The top garden where there are many drives and paths, lawns and flowering plants is an evening resort of the people. The attraction of the lower garden is that it has a small lake for boating.

The Sri Chitralayam

Art Adviser to Government to supervise Government Museums and Picture Galleries.	*Professor J. H. Cousins.*
Officer in charge of the Sri Chitralayam.	*Mr. T. S. Seshadri, B. A. (from 1-1-1119 to 8-1-1119)* *Mr. K. Madhava Menon (from 9-1-1119 till the end of the year.)*

The Sri Chitralayam which is the chief Art Gallery in the State was founded in Kanni 1111 M. E., and has been rendering valuable service by its display of representative Indian paintings (particularly of Kerala) and of selected examples of other Asian paintings.

Additions. The following paintings and illuminated manuscripts were added to the Gallery during the year under report:—

1. Three Moghul paintings including an exquisite painting depicting Aurangazeb riding on an elephant.
2. Copy of an Ajanta Mural depicting a flying musician (Gandharva) playing cymbals.
3. A set of 50 pictures on mica framed in five panels of 10 pictures each.
4. Oil Painting by the late Raja Ravi Varma—A Bairagi.
5. Modern Indian paintings—
   - (*a*) Paintings by Sudhir Khastgir of Dehra Dun School
     - (i) Rabindranath Tagore
     - (ii) Dolok Dance
   - (*b*) Paintings by Promode K. Chatterjee
     - (i) Yama before Nachiketa
     - (ii) Sakuntala
     - (iii) Deepavali Dance
     - (iv) Arjuna and Panchali

(v) King Harshavardhana meeting the Chinese traveller Hiuan Tsan

(vi) Agni Swaha

(vii) Nityananda and Sri Gouranga

6. Copies of five Murals from Vaikom temple; and two from Adikesava temple, Tiruvattar

7. Siva by K. Madhava Menon

8. Copy of Mural 'Indra on elephant' copied from Sri Padmanabhaswami temple, Trivandrum

9. Mother and child by Ram Mohan Sastri

Nos. 2, 3, 5 (b) (v) and 9 above were presented by the Dewan

Visitors.

The total number of visitors to the Gallery during the year was 19,801. Groups of students from various institutions in the State and outside as well as excursion parties visited the Gallery during the year.

The Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and the Infirm.

The Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and the Infirm was established at Trivandrum ten years ago with the donation of Rs. 50,000 given by His Highness the Maharaja. Further donations, including a sum of Rs. 1,000 from Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi were received subsequently. The control and management of the Home are vested in a Board appointed by Government.

There were 81 inmates in the Home (40 adults and 41 orphans) in the beginning of the year. Nine adults and one orphan boy were newly admitted while 24 inmates were discharged and 12 inmates died during the year. At the end of the year there were 55 inmates (24 adults and 31 orphans). The general health of the inmates was good. At the end of the year 29 orphans in the Home were attending school. Fifteen orphans were engaged in weaving work and they made articles valued at nearly Rs. 1,800.

The total expenditure in running the Home amounted to Rs. 7,482 during the year against Rs. 6,714 in the previous year.

Towards the close of the year a scheme for enlarging the scope of the institution was sanctioned by Government and brought into effect. The Board of Management of the Home was reconstituted so as to consist of, besides the President, 15 members of whom five are nominated by the Government, five nominated by the Corporation of Trivandrum and five elected by the General Governing Body of the Home. The institution which was housed in rented quarters was shifted to an extensive site which was acquired by Government at a cost of nearly half a lakh of rupees and where in addition to the existing buildings new structures are being put up so as to provide healthy and sanitary tenements to the destitutes in the City. The new Home is centrally situated within easy reach of the main thoroughfares and is contiguous to similar philanthropic institutions doing meritorious service in the cause of the poor. While the capital expenditure on the institution has been provided by Government the expenses of its maintenance are expected to be met from collections made by the public and contributions made by the Trivandrum Corporation for beggar relief.

The Public Service.

Public Service Commissioner. *Mr. S. N. Ure, M. A.*

General.

The year under report is the ninth year of the working of the Public Service Department. The Public Service Commissioner is assisted by a non-official Advisory Committee which met twice during the year. The discussions at these meetings of the Committee were very helpful.

Recruitment General.

During the year 2,513 recruitments were advised by the Public Service Commissioner as against 2,036 in the previous year. Besides these there were about 800 advices which were ineffective owing to the non-availability of the candidates, a majority of them having left the State for military service.

Recruitment to the Higher Division. The Civil Service.

The principle that the Civil Service officers would not ordinarily be assigned to any particular department permanently, but would be shifted from department to department with reference to the exigencies of the service and the fitness of the officers, was modified and it was laid down that all Civil Service officers would in future be attached to the Land Revenue Department and borne initially on the cadre of Tahsildars. In pursuance of this modification four of the first batch of six Civil Service officers who were working in other departments were transferred to the Land Revenue Department and confirmed as Tahsildars. The training of the second batch of Civil Service Probationers was continued during the year.

Intermediate Division.

Eighteen selective tests were held during the year for appointments in the Intermediate Division. The total numberof candidates interviewed was 121 out of a total number of 202 applicants and the number of recruitments advised was 32.

Lower Division Selection Appointments.

Selective tests were held in respect of 30 classes of appointments in the Lower Division. The total number of applicants was 3,191 and the total number of recruitments advised was 1,017.

A Special examination for the selection of candidates for appointment as clerks of the Lower Division was held during the year. Out of a total of 1,239 candidates who appeared for the examination 759 were declared successful.

The subjoined statement shows the number of candidates advised for recruitment from the several recognised communities during 1119:—

Name of community.		No. advised for recruitment to the Intermediate Division. (All these are selected on the basis of the results of selective tests).	No. advised for recruitment to the Lower Division.	
			Appointments carrying a pay ranging from Rs 20 to Rs. 75 and including appointments of proverthicars and Pakuthi Accountants.	Appointments below Rs. 20 excluding proverthicars and Pakuthi Accountants.
HINDU	Brahmin	5	33	35
	Ezhava	1	130	226
	Kammala	...	20	48
	Kurava	...	1	18
	Nadar	...	22	54
	Nayar	7	428	369
	Other Hindu	1	50	75
	Other specified Hindu	...	14	23
	Paraya	...	2	22
	Pulaya	...	9	49
	Vellala	2	42	30
CHRISTIAN	Anglican	2	11	24
	Jacobite	6	38	93
	Latin Catholic	1	39	89
	Marthomite	5	37	34
	Other Christian	...	8	29
	S. I. U. C.	...	31	47
	Syriac Catholic	1	66	102
MUSLIM		1	36	97
	Total	32	1,017	1,464

The State Life Insurance (Public Branch).

The State Life Insurance Scheme—Public Branch—completed the eleventh year of its working by the end of the year under report. The progress of the scheme as judged by the rush of new proposals, premium income and the growth of the Fund, has been very satisfactory. As the volume of business transacted rose to such an extent that it could not be handled by a section of the Accountant General's office, the section was organised into a separate department under the administrative control of the Accountant General from the 1st Mithunam 1119.

General.

Proposals.

During the year 2,897 proposals involving a sum of B. Rs. 32·958 lakhs were received against 1,913 proposals for B. Rs. 19·273 lakhs in 1118. Inclusive of 409 proposals for B. Rs. 4·463 lakhs pending disposal at the end of the previous year, there were in all 3,306 proposals for B. Rs. 37·421 lakhs to be dealt with during the year. Out of these 45 proposals for B. Rs. 69,400 were rejected or cancelled, 40 proposals were subjected to a reduction of B. Rs. 54,400 and 2,926 proposals for B. Rs. 32·58 lakhs were accepted leaving a balance of 295 proposals for B. Rs. 3·305 lakhs pending at the end of the year.

Policies.

1,003 policies for B. Rs. 11·281 lakhs were completed during the year under review after admitting proof of age, as against 993 policies for B. Rs. 10·135 lakhs in 1118. The total number of policies issued to the last day of 1119 was 10,860 for B. Rs. 98·334 lakhs. Including the rest of the proposals accepted, but awaiting completion, the risk on which had, however, commenced, the total number of policies allotted till the end of the year works out to 12,093 for B. Rs. 110·768 lakhs.

Claims.

Three claims by maturity for B. Rs. 3,112 arose and payments were settled during the year. Including 52 claims by death for B. Rs. 34,900 relating to the previous year, 95 claims by death for B. Rs. 71,000 came up for settlement during the year. Out of these, 27 claims for B. Rs. 20,200 were settled during the year and one claim for B. Rs. 1,000 was rejected, leaving a balance of 67 claims for B. Rs. 49,800 pending settlement at the end of the year.

Surrenders.

Four policies for B. Rs. 2,400 were surrendered during the year for B. Rs. 197-4-9 and payments made thereon.

Lapses and Revivals.

During the year under report 1,078 policies for B. Rs. 10·351 lakhs lapsed. By taking prompt action 740 policies for B. Rs. 8·146 lakhs were revived after realising a revival fee of B. Rs. 544-14-9.

Loans to the extent of B. Rs. 14,830-10-6 were granted to 148 policy holders during the year as against 305 loans for B. Rs. 26,337 in the previous year.

Cash Loans.

The receipts for the year inclusive of repayment of cash loans, interest on investments, etc., amounted to S. Rs. 5·48 lakhs while disbursements of the year including loan on policies, claims, agents' commission, medical fees, salaries, establishment charges, etc., amounted to S. Rs. 84,194.

Receipts and Payments.

After making the disbursements, the cash balance to the credit of the Fund at the end of the year 1119 stood at S. Rs. 21·42 lakhs, which was S. Rs. 4·63 lakhs more than the cash balance for 1118.

Funds.

The proportion of expenditure incurred for the management of the business to the premium-income realised during the year was 9·9 per cent. as compared with 10·01 per cent. during the previous year.

Expense Ratio.

State Life Insurance.

(Government Servants' Branch)

Government servants in the permanent pensionable service of the State and those of the funds whose services are pensionable from the general revenues are eligible for insurance in this branch. Palace subordinates who are eligible for pension either from Government or from Palace funds and who hold permanent appointments are also eligible for insurance in this branch and officers in temporary service are also eligible under certain conditions. The administrative control of the fund is vested in the Accountant General.

General.

There were six proposals for which policies were pending issue at the close of the year 1118 and 29 fresh proposals were received during the year under review. Thirty-three policies were issued in the course of the year and two proposals were pending at the end of the year.

Proposals.

The number of policies in force at the close of the year 1118 was 593, with a total sum assured of Rs. 5,20,762·43 and 33 policies with an aggregate sum of Rs. 42,010·69 were issued in 1119. Twenty-four policies for a total amount of Rs. 30,757·22 were removed in 1119 and 602 policies for a total sum of Rs. 5,32,015·90 were in force at the close of the year.

Policies.

There were ten claims on 14 policies pending settlement at the end of the year 1118 and 22 claims on 27 policies were preferred during the year under review. Out of the total of 32 claims on 41 policies, 21 claims on 24 policies were settled and 11 claims on 17 policies were pending settlement at the close of 1119. Eight claims by death and thirteen claims by maturity totalling Rs. 6,310-17-12 and Rs. 24,446-16-8 respectively were paid during the year.

Claims.

During the year under review 17 loans on 17 policies were issued for a total amount of Rs. 2,958. The receipts during the year on account of loan repayments with interest amounted to Rs. 4,651-15-4.

Loans on Policies.

The closing balance of the Fund at the end of the year 1118 was Rs. 4,77,626-11-3 and the receipts including interest allowed to the Fund in 1119 amounted to Rs. 39,401-11-2, thus raising the total of the Fund to Rs. 5,17,027-22-5. The expenditure during the year was 40,837-25-9 and the closing balance at the end of the year stood at Rs. 4,76,189-24-12.

Receipts and Expenditure.

State Savings Bank.

Savings bank business is conducted in all the State treasuries and also in important Anchal Offices. During the year under report the savings bank business was introduced in three more Anchal Offices, thus increasing the number of offices doing this business from 191 in 1118 to 194 in 1119. Besides the ordinary deposit accounts open to the public, security deposit accounts are

General.

allowed in favour of Government contractors for the due performance of the work undertaken by them and also in favour of Government servants who have to furnish security in respect of the appointments held by them. Public accounts are permitted in the case of municipalities, co-operative societies and other public bodies and institutions constituted for purposes other than the personal advantage of the contributors. Fixed deposit accounts are allowed to be opened in the treasuries by municipalities, by Deavaswoms having personal deposit accounts at treasuries and also on behalf of some of the Funds.

Volume of Business.

The number of savings bank accounts rose from 191,097 at the end of 1118 to 211,285 at the end of 1119. The total balance of deposits also showed a rise from Rs. 406·15 lakhs at the end of 1118 to Rs. 466·09 lakhs at the end of 1119. There was a steady rise in the number of depositors and in the deposit balances during the last ten years except in regard to the closing balance in the year 1112. This indicates the confidence of the general public in the Government Savings Bank.

State Provident Fund.

The State Provident Fund was instituted in the year 1107 M. E. with the object of providing facilities for Government servants to invest a portion of their pay every month and to enable them to withdraw the accumulated savings in a lump when they retire from service. The benefit of the Fund accrues to the family of officers in the event of death while in harness. All employees in permanent pensionable service under Government and local bodies are eligible to subscribe to the Fund.

The number of subscribers admitted to the Fund in 1119 was 1,544 as against 1,807 in 1118. The total number of subscribers admitted up to the end of 1119 was 20,492. The amount of subscription realised in 1119 was Rs. 3·84 lakhs as against Rs. 3·53 lakhs in 1118. The interest paid on the deposits in 1119 amounted to Rs. 90,879 as against Rs. 81,725 in 1118.

The number of accounts finally closed during the year was 312, the amount paid out of the Fund on that account being Rs. 1,43,959. 1,015 loans for Rs. 57,050 were issued during 1119 as against 1,091 loans for Rs. 61,455 in 1118. A sum of Rs. 60,820, including Rs. 1,580, towards interest, was realised during the year. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 27,95,913 against Rs. 24,62,835 at the close of 1118.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 28th May 1945.

C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR,
Dewan.

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